THE EXAMINER.

No. 751. SUNDAY, JUNE 23, 1822.

THE POLITICAL EXAMINER.

Party is the madness of many for the gain of a few. POPE.

No. 741.

"THE IMMORTAL MEMORY."

NAPOLEON BONAPARTE conversing one day upon the fame of artists, asked how long a valuable picture might be preserved, and being answered, "Possibly four hundred years," exclaimed contemptuously, "What an immortality!" If painters are to be pitied on this score, how much more ought we to sympathise with the brevity of the glory of certain modern politicians, and more especially with that of the great man "now no more," whose waning reputation has suggested to us the heading of this article. Under their present melancholy circumstances we will spare Pitt Clubs; it would be "ridiculous excess" to spend powder upon them, reminding us as they do of an old beau in a consumption, or any other combination of impotence and pretension, which excites a sardonic smile at the weakness of human nature. For some years past, we firmly believe the necessity of attending them has been the most irksome thing imaginable to the good men and true, who think themselves bound to put a good face upon the matter; but in the present year the celebration has been attended by incident so peculiarly untoward, the consciousness of their silly situation could not but cloud the powers of face of the most determined devotees. It has accordingly done so, and that so unequivocally, we are satisfied that when a few weak old gentlemen are carried to their fathers, the celebration of this auspicious birth-day will pass away along with them.

We have been led into the foregoing observations by an attentive perusal of the debate on the motion of Mr. WESTERN, for an enquiry into the expediency of a return to the Paper System. Upon the propriety of that motion, and the merits of the arguments by which it was supported, it is not our intention to enter. While we allow the suffering which a return to the legal standard has produced, and recollect with a degree of amazement the ignorant *sang-froid* with which the two Houses santioned an operation so tremendous, we can see nothing in a return to the mire, but a reaction in that operation which would render the effects a thousand times worse. We have said *ignorant* sang-froid, for whatever may have been the case with Ministers, it is evident that nine-tenths of our virtual Representatives acted in perfect ignorance, and knew nothing of what they were doing. Indeed, we are occasionally disposed to be charitable, by thinking that the same unconsciousness attended Ministers themselves; and that Lord LIVERPOOL and Mr. VANSITTART were believers in the nonsense which they addressed to their followers. If not, what is to be said of the fact of accompanying the resumption of cash payments with the addition of three millions of taxes?—absolutely passing measures which raised taxation, possibly a fourth, but even by *general* admission a tenth, with a positive and specific addition to taxation itself? If this was not ignorance on the part of Ministers, what was it?—if not stupidity on that of their followers, what else? What has since occurred, but that which might have been expected to occur?—over production, it is said: that is to say, cheapness and plenty are evils in this happy and well-governed land. But suppose we allow of this paradox in reply to the pining agriculturist, what is to be said to the manufacturer, who is evidently kept on his legs by the assistance of this overproduction alone? We repeat it, Ministers must plead guilty either to want of foresight, or want of principle: they either participated in the obtuseness of their confiding county members, or attempted the grossest imposition upon the community. After trying to put on *three* millions, they have been obliged to take *four* off again; and after affirming over and over again that establishments could not be reduced, have been obliged to reduce them. To what does this amount—ignorance corrected by its own experience, or imposition detected by the experience of others? One of the two *must* be the case; and either of the two ought to conclude their career as Ministers.

But, as we have said already, the object of this article is not to expatiate upon the policy of holding on, or giving way, in respect to cash payments; it is quite enough to read the debates on this theme, and, to be candid, somewhat too much. Our humbler purpose is to glean from the arguments of the inheritors of the PITT Policy themselves, the present "whereabout" of their master's financial reputation. In this way the recent discussion was most curiously instructive, and afforded one of the most extraordinary instances of impudence on the part of a leading few, and apathy on that of the following many, that has ever been recorded. What can exceed the edification of listening to tirades against the cruelty, the injustice, the fraud, and the absurdity of unsettling the currency, and tampering with the legal standard, from men who profess to be followers of *that man*, who deliberately committed the specified fraud, and by deliberately committing it, produced all the mischief which has urged certain persons into a desire to recur to it? We deliberately declare, that we agree with these orators as to the impolicy of turning back again in the rough and thorny path, which is the only road from the precipice to which the measures of PITT have conducted us; but we listen with wonder and amazement at the way in which these unblushing persons affect to characterise opinions which have only grown out of the distraction produced by the practice of their great leader. We are aware of the manœuvre to preserve a little consistency on this occasion:—the battle is entrusted to Messrs. HUSKISSON and PEEL, both of whom are clear of the sin of having supported the dishonourable policy, a return to which they so eloquently and, in many respects, justly decry. But what then?—All this is asserted in the hearing and countenanced by the support of colleagues, who have uttered all sorts of *platitudes* over and over again, in defence of that very policy! Poor Mr. VANSITTART—with what a dignified consciousness must you have listened to this moral and financial indignation! The all-confiding *Squirarchy* too!—but they *had* the grace to keep silent, and never was silence more becoming. It is a felicity attendant upon this body, to talk immensely large, when the folly they have espoused

affects other people; and very small, when it operates upon themselves. We were not indulged with a word from Mr. Bankes in defence of the "immortal memory;" and under the name of Western, he suffered the god of his idolatry,—the awful creator of the Sinking Fund,—to be abused with impunity. Experience, says the proverb, is the wisdom of fools; and in this way a part of that of Solomon may have become the property of certain country gentlemen. It is a wisdom, also, which is generally paid for, and here they are likely to possess an additional claim. But whether we attend to the brazen effrontery of Ministers, or to the conscience-stricken reserve of the country gentlemen, one reflection is involuntary, and that amounts to a hearty contempt for Virtual Representation. We are aware that it may be useless to waste time upon past errors, in the discussion of present expediency; but allowing all possible latitude to this truth, it is most disgusting to hear the same men countenancing attacks one day, which they have repelled the day before, and complacently listening to invectives which it has been half the business of their lives to resist. Silence too, however becoming, is by no means magnanimous on such occasions; and it would be much more creditable for certain country gentlemen to plead guilty to past delusion, than to spend one half their time in the utterance of complaints, and the other in attention to cajollery. We have no sort of hesitation to declare, that we regard the present aspect of Parliament as a national disgrace, on the score of intellectuality, saying nothing as to principle. Doing and undoing—saying and unsaying—compromising and sophisticating—seem the order of every day in the week; and that the nation should prosper, even as it has prospered, under a conduct so uncongenial, amounts in our mind to one of those providential phœnomena, by which we are led to conclude that national well-being is sometimes fixed upon so broad a foundation, that folly may assail it for a generation or two with impunity, and corruption sap it for a long time in vain. The conclusion would be so far correct; but all history likewise proves, that folly and corruption are ultimately destructive, and that shifting and unprincipled policy as certainly terminates in confusion and disgrace.

But to return to Pitt, although, as *Dogberry* says, the thing be not expressly written down, it is clear from the debates that his financial policy is *virtually* condemned. In what has it consisted? The Sinking Fund,—a piece of fallacy that exists only by a sort of interested agreement not to see the truth, because the falsehood is convenient,—a scheme, which, in respect to the community at large, is a mere imposture at the best,—a deceptive incitement to *bleed freely*. The nation is treated like some of the children in humble life, who are taught to expect immense results from dropping their money into a box with a hole in it. The saving in the sequel amounts to neither less nor more than what the child has put into it; and so it is with that collective baby the people, in respect to the Sinking Fund. The nonsense does not rest simply in the accident of war, and in consequence the support of the trickery by borrowing;—it is under *all* circumstances a deception,—the accumulation at *all* times is merely nominal, the people, like the baby, only taking out of the box what they have previously put in. We mistake; the parallel is too favourable;—the people do not take out *all* which they put in;—*they* pay commissioners and other expenses, not to mention a rise of the commodity it is their purpose to redeem.* Not so the child, if the mother taking charge of its box has no private intrigue with a Chancellor of the Exchequer. But enough of simile in respect to the Sinking Fund; it is sufficient to observe, that under the most favourable circumstances it would amount only to a convenient piece of trickery; and that in all other cases it is nothing more than a bonus to jobbers and *employés*,—commissioners, trustees, and such like persons, engaged to transact business with one another, and suited for a connexion like convex and concave. This farce has been carried to the utmost in the Pension Annuity Scheme, which sets common sense at defiance. Funding is a fine invention; it sticks to a people, after a while, like the shirt of Nessus; they can get rid of it but with life. Hence the support of the Sinking Fund; all the world make it a point to be deluded, and to call black, white; and black is called white accordingly. If there be merit in this sort of invention, it is certainly due to Mr. Pitt, and we devote to his "immortal memory" the fame and merit of the Sinking Fund to all eternity.

The next great epoch in the financial career of Mr. Pitt, is the Bank Restriction Act, and we are at present deriving the benefit of it. Everybody is now aware of the fraud, and of the long career of suffering which it has ensured. It answered no good purpose at the moment, and the ultimate harvest of bitterness was certain. The succeeding five or six years of war did nothing but foster the power of Napoleon, and promote the most lavish and corrupt profusion—a profusion which undoubtedly produced an artificial temporary prosperity, but with a certainty of reaction, which would be in the highest degree deplorable. We now understand what that reaction is, and can estimate the utility of a measure, which the disciples of its very author now denominate a fraud It *was* a fraud—a gross fraud; and the

* The Earl of Lauderdale is by no means one of the gods of *our* idolatry, but he has recently published an ingenious exposition of the almost swindling deceptiveness of the Sinking Fund in this respect. Thus, in August 1786, the *money value* of the debt was 147 millions; in May 1792, 168 millions, although in the mean time 8 millions of debt had actually been redeemed. Now whatever other advantages may result from an artificial rise in the value of stock, it is plain, that as to redemption of debt, it is an egregious delusion. When the four per cents shall have followed the fives, the operation of an efficient Sinking Fund, that is to say, of a Sinking Fund which actually redeems, will have a scope of 20 per cent (from 80 to 100) from the present price of consols, to raise the *money value* of all the debt remaining; and by this all-be-praised scheme, after expending millions of taxation in redemption, the actual amount to be redeemed will be greater than before. It may be said, that every mode of redemption would ensure this inconvenience. It would so; but this says nothing in vindication of the gross falsehoods, by which people are persuaded to groan under extra taxation for the sake of a Sinking Fund. In point of fact, there should be no scope for this delusion by our three per cent. manner of funding at all. By that mode, the nation cannot, according to engagement, as in the recent case of the five per cents, annihilate stock under a redemption of full 40 per cent. above par, a fact which produces all the jobbing that is so nationally injurious; and which is giving away half the amount employed in redemption to jobbers and money-dealers. In other words, the nation is overstrained to produce an excess of taxation, a great portion of which wanders into the pockets of individuals. The Americans, sensible in almost all things, avoid this mischievous result, by borrowing on the principle of a national power of redeeming at par, by which all this sinister fraud and delusion is avoided; and if on this account they borrow upon worse terms, the advantage of a solid and actual redemption of debt to the full value of the surplus employed to redeem, without enhancing the price of the remainder, forms an adequate return. But this would never do with us; it would cut off too much gambling, jobbing, and speculation; and, worse than all, put it entirely out of the power of a Chancellor of the Exchequer to lie year after year in the language of truth, on the subject of Sinking Funds.

abandonment of it, however necessary, has been little better. Everybody gives up Mr. PITT as a war minister; but never did nation pay so dear for the education of one as Great Britain. For five years—*videlicit*, from 1797 to 1802—were his strides proceeding at the expense of the national and every other creditor; and the proximate result was the peace of Amiens,—the ulterior one, present distress and the late prolonged debates. The partisans of Mr. PITT, say that it might have been worse. The claim is humble, and we allow of it; it might have led to the subjugation of all Europe, and was very near doing so.

The last claim on the part of the partisans of Mr. PITT, and they usually advance it with a sort of appeal to candour, amounts to this—"but he was an excellent *peace* minister." That he possessed a certain portion of regulative ability, we do not deny; but we have lately gone over his Life by Bishop TOMLINE, and cannot, for the soul of us, discover in what this very great excellence consisted. It was the low state of his opponents, and the determined countenance of Royalty, which so negatively and positively advanced him. His regulation of the customs and excise, his commutations and fiscal arrangements, no doubt displayed much business-like ability, but little or nothing more. We have read the grateful Bishop with the utmost attention and no small labour, and whether his Lordship was unequal to the biography of a great man, or was unfortunate in his subject, we never read a life so utterly uninteresting. The early career of Mr. PITT was that of a sober youth, brought prudently up to business; and be it understood, he caught the nation at a favourable rebound, and profited exceedingly by the circumstance. When real difficulties occurred, we can discover nothing of the master; and his war system was puerile and detestable—always doing nothing, or something worse. The greatness of NAPOLEON was clearly of his creation, and the Trade Monopoly, which finally rendered the war so popular, originated rather in the error of the enemy than in the foresight of the British Minister. In short, the genius of Mr. PITT lay chiefly in *Cocker*, and taken out of figures, his practical ability was very moderate. Nor was his arithmetic servicable to the nation; on the contrary, it led both the people and himself into the clouds, and set all the world upon a speculation on "imaginary quantities," to the production of that system of financial romance, which since his death has been rendered so ludicrously but unprofitably entertaining.

To conclude, the real good effected by this man of "immortal memory" will be scarcely traceable in another generation; whereas, as *Antony* says of *Cæsar*, his "evil will live after him." His friends say, that his firmness and tenacity led to the deliverance of Europe. We have not arrived at the conclusion of that history yet; but should it prove disastrous to the permanent national welfare of Great Britain, we trust they will abide by their position. Our own opinion is, that a time is approaching, when the name of this statesman will form a bye-word for national impolicy and delusion; and honestly and conscienciously to hasten the arrival of that period, is the object of this brief article. Q.

TRIUMPH OF SOUTHWARK AND PURITY OF ELECTION.

On Tuesday, the independent electors of Southwark, friends to Parliamentary Reform, celebrated the Fourth Anniversary of their Independence at the Horns Tavern, Kennington, Sir ROBERT WILSON in the Chair.—At half past five o'clock, the Hon. Chairman entered the Great Room, accompanied by Messrs. H. G. Bennet, Lambton, J. C. Hobhouse, Hume, C. H. Hutchinson, and S. C. Whitbread; Baron De Stael; Alderman Wood; Alderman Waithman, &c. They were greeted with most fervent applause. Sir Francis Burdett was prevented from attending by a fit of the gout.—Between two and three hundred Electors sat down to dinner. The cloth having been removed, the following toasts were given:—"The King, and the principles which placed his family on the throne," with three times three.—"The People, the only true source of legitimate power," with three times three.—"The Liberty of the Press," with three times three, and enthusiastic applause.—"A speedy and effectual Reform in the Commons' House of Parliament," with three times three, and long continued cheering.

Mr. WEATHERSTONE proposed the health of the gallant Chairman, after an introductory speech, in which he noticed the various acts which had distinguished and graced Sir R. Wilson's public character, concluding with his last never-to-be forgiven offence of having advocated the cause of the late ill-fated Queen. And what was the consequence? asked Mr. Weatherstone,—the most bitter, the most unrelenting persecution followed him, that ever disgraced the annals of any age or country. *(Cheers).* He was struck out of the ranks of the army, in which he had so ably served; he was robbed of his property, and every petty art that malice could suggest was put in practice against him. *(Hear, hear!)* If the people of England had not rallied round him in that trying hour, they would have deserved to be branded as the most ungrateful people in the world. *(Applause.)* But they did rally round and defend him. That consideration which he had shown to others, they showed to him. *(Applause.)*

"The health of Sir Robert Wilson, our independent, humane, and gallant representative; and may the spirit of the people keep pace with the oppression of the Government." *(Loud cheering.)*

Sir R. WILSON then stood forward, amidst loud applause, and returned his thanks to the electors for their sympathy and support under all his trials, declaring that he should never cease to bear in mind a grateful recollection of their generous kindness. He then alluded to those supporters of Ministers, whose duty it was to protect the rights of the people, to whom, he said, the infliction of a new tax, and the abolition of an ancient right, seemed to be additional securities for religion and social order. *(Laughter.)* They had seen Magistrates oppressing, not protecting the people; and Judges applying punishment to the man and not to the offence. *(Cheers.)* Military Government was the order of the day. But the tone was now changed even with many of those who formerly supported Administration. Every where now was heard—

——"The loud lament,
"Of rising taxes, and of falling rent;"

And those who, heretofore, minded not the necessities of the labouring classes, now sympathized with the people, and began to see that Reform was the only remedy for the evils of the country.—The general distress was accelerating the cause of Reform, which afforded some consolation amid their grievances. A great political crisis was at hand. The enemies of Reform maintained, that the House ought to be a self-elected, seat-purchasing, stipendiary representation; *(applause)* that a majority of such persons was necessary for supporting the Government; that if there were no rotten boroughs, there would be no men of talent in the House; and that elections by the people would endanger the regal establishment. But the Reformers argued, that all history proved that the people were always judicious in the choice of public officers. "What Roman," asked a severe ancient critic, "is there so base, as to prefer a Nero to a Seneca?" Integrity, as well as talents, was wanted in a House of Commons. The people were well-affected to royalty; and a King of England need only be a republican in his acts, to ensure the most perfect devotion. *(Applause.)* Sir Robert spoke with just praise of the American Republic, where there were *no habeas corpus* suspensions, no six acts, no restrictions on the liberty of the press, even during two wars. *(Applause.)* He then noticed the march of liberty in Spain and Portugal, the happy proceedings in South America under his gallant Friend Lord Cochrane, and concluded by alluding to Greece, whose brave people, according to report, had been sacrificed at the wicked and sanguinary shrine of legitimacy. He thought, however, that she might yet work out her salvation. *(Cheers.)*

The toast, "Sir F. Burdett and J. C. Hobhouse, Esq. the undaunted, faithful, and distinguished advocates of the rights and liberties of their country," was received with cheers; and

Mr. HOBHOUSE returned thanks for himself, and lamented the absence of his worthy colleague, who was kept away by severe indisposition. He alluded to Mr. Ricardo's plan for paying off the debt, but said he would never consent that the people should be called upon to pay a debt they had never incurred, except on one condition—namely, unless they were secured from the recurrence of the evil that now ground them to the dust.—And how

could they be secure without a real representation? Unless the people had the power to say to the Minister—you shall not involve us in expensive, absurd, and cruel wars; *(hear, hear, hear!)* unless the people could say, having paid the debt, we shall take care that you shall not ever again have the power of involving us in similar expense, how could they look upon themselves as emancipated from that powerful and rapacious arm, the pressure of which they so severely felt? Nothing but a Radical Reform could secure them from a recurrence of the evils with which the country was now overwhelmed; *(loud applause)* yet he had voted for every plan of Reform—for everything that gave the people the least chance of being better represented—for as far as the majority of the House was concerned, they could not be worse. *(A laugh.)* It behoved them to struggle for that which alone could bring the country out of its difficulties—an entire Reform in the House of Commons. *(Applause.)* Mr. Hobhouse sat down amid general applause.

The CHAIRMAN said, that virtue, however obscure, was always deserving admiration; and talents, wherever found, deserved encouragement; but where talents and virtue are blended with hereditary rank and extensive possessions, and where all of these were directed to the good of the country, the individual who possessed them had no common claim upon the respect and esteem of the people. Eminently were those great and rare gifts enjoyed by his Hon. Friend, whose health he was about to propose, and virtuously were they exerted by him for the redemption of his country.—The Hon. Chairman, amid a tumult of applause, proposed the health of "J. G. Lambton, Esq. and the Reformers of Durham."

Mr. LAMBTON addressed the company in an energetic and eloquent speech. After alluding to the flattering reception of his name, he congratulated them on the spirit of union which now prevailed among the Reformers, and that they were directing their efforts to one great and paramount object—the destruction of that system which threatened to overwhelm their best rights and dearest interests in irretrievable ruin;—a system which was contrary to the feelings and interests, and consequently to the will of the people, and whose chief engine was corruption. They saw a representation, which was the heart and core of that corruption—*(cheers)*—a House of Commons, which was the chosen temple where, sessionally, like the Indian priests, the votaries of corrupt practices assembled to celebrate their unhallowed sacrifices, amidst the tears and cries of their wretched victims. *(Cheers.)* As to the people, what state were they in? In one part of the empire they were suffering all the horrors of famine, and endeavouring to preserve existence by the application of private charity—an existence not prized by their governors, and hateful to themselves, in consequence of the horrors by which it was surrounded. *(Cheers.)* In another part of the empire the feelings of the people were raised to such a pitch of desperation, that they attempted to destroy that superabundance of provisions which Providence had sent as the greatest blessing, but which it was fashionable to describe as the greatest curse. *(Applause.)* In other places they were leaving their farms, giving a melancholy picture of that Highland emigration which had been so often and so feelingly described. They were leaving their farms to the tax-gatherer, that new landlord—that substitute for the feudal baron of ancient days, but far exceeding him in cruelty, oppression, and rapacity. *(Cheering.)* Ought such a state of things to be endured? Was it not the duty of every man to exert himself to the utmost to remove these stupendous evils? But there was a fatal bar in the way—the want of an efficient House of Commons. Except on questions with respect to which Ministers were themselves divided, such as the Catholic question, there was not a semblance of difference between the majority of the House and the Government. He was not to be told that they had voted for the reduction of one of the Lords of the Admiralty, and of one of the joint Postmasters-general, as proofs of their independence. The fact was, that such conduct was looked upon as a species of absolution, which quieted their consciences, and enabled them to riot in fresh vices. *(Laughter.)* And he appealed to all present whether, when any trifling measure was carried against Ministers, and was followed by a motion connected with the rights and happiness of the people, the latter was not uniformly negatived by an immense majority? *(Applause.)* Those majorities were as much under the controul of Ministers as a pack of hounds was under the huntsman. Therefore, to Reform alone could they look for effectual relief. Could any thing be more impudently disgusting than the conduct of the House, or rather of Ministers, for they were identified in feeling, and divided the plunder between them, in the treatment his gallant friend had received? Could any thing be more clear than their ignorance of the state of the country, when they proposed a plan, which, had it been carried, would have rendered it necessary that an application should be made to the Herald's-office, for the purpose of quartering the pawnbrokers' balls with the Royal Arms. *(Laughter.)* Their decision that the state of our representation was so perfect, that it required no alteration—their protection of the Switzerland job—their re-enactment of the Alien Bill—proved that the present House of Commons was unfit for the country. It was very fit indeed for the Ministers, but it was extremely unfit for the people. *(Hear!)*—With respect to that House, one fact alone would set it in its true light. A bill had been brought in to enable five or six Catholic Peers to deliberate in the illustrious and lively House of Peers; but instead of looking at the measure as it may affect the present times, the wise leaders of the bigot party gravely examined the testimony of Oates and Bedloe, and nicely weighed the motives of those who had lived 140 years ago.—They dwelt too upon the machinations of the Pope—but as well might they have felt apprehensions from those old women, who at that period were supposed to ride in the air on broom-sticks. The power of the Pope was as much despised by Catholic Bigots on the Continent, as it was feared and hated by Protestant Bigots in England. *(Applause.)* He would be the last to despair of the liberties of the world. The triumph of Spain and Portugal—the struggle of Greece—the hope of Italy, which, though blasted for a moment, held a steady eye on the recovery of its freedom, must tend to convince the oppressors, that if they persevered to oppose the deliverance of nations, the recoil would only prove the more dangerous, and the moment of retribution become more terrible to themselves.—(Mr. Lambton sat down amid enthusiastic cheers).

The next toast was, "The health of Samuel C. Whitbread, Esq. and the triumph of Middlesex."

Mr. WHITBREAD could only attribute the applause with which this toast was received to the feelings entertained towards him as Member for Middlesex, and not to any personal merit of his. It would be useless to point out all the various insults which had been offered by the House of Commons to the people; and it was unnecessary to enumerate all the advantages which they would derive from a Reform in their representation. That was the grand object to which all their efforts should be pointed. For himself, he had no more anxious wish than to have his name coupled with that of Reform; and he should esteem that moment on which he could reckon on its success as the happiest of his life. *(Applause.)*

The CHAIRMAN then proposed the healths of "Aldermen Wood, Waithman, and Thorp, and the Reformers of London."

Mr. Alderman WOOD expressed the satisfaction he felt at hearing his name coupled with those of his worthy friends and the Reformers of London, many of whom he saw present. He could assure them, that no man was more ready to sacrifice his time, and if necessary, his life, in their service.

Mr. Alderman WAITHMAN addressed the assembly. After glancing at his past life, he said, he supposed it was now too late to calculate on the Livery of London doing any thing with respect to himself. *(Cries of no, no.)* He was now too much advanced in life to be led away by any feelings of personal ambition or vanity; but he would be always ready when called upon to contribute his humble talents to the public cause. If, when he was dead, the recollection of any act of his should survive him, it would be his having—when he found the Common Council a sink of corruption, like another assembly which he would not name, composed of churchwardens and jobbing aldermen completely under the thumb of the Minister, for whom they were ready to do any dirty work—his having been fortunate enough to throw open its doors and let the citizens see what was going forward within. The worthy Alderman next urged some arguments in favour of Reform, and invited the Electors to co-operate cordially in endeavouring to obtain this desirable object.

The CHAIRMAN next gave the health of "H. G. Bennet, Esq. and the Reformers of Shrewsbury."

Mr. BENNET returned thanks, and spoke at some length on the grievances of the people and the necessity of Reform. He concluded by saying, that there never was a Parliament since the Norman Conquest which took from the people more of their privileges than the present; and he therefore exhorted them to persevere steadily, until a Reform was effected. *(Applause.)*

The next toast was "Joseph Hume, Esq. the active and persevering friend of economy; and the Reformers of Scotland."

Mr. HUME observed that, with the resources which this country possessed, she ought to be the happiest on the face of the earth; and therefore it was the more lamentable to see her miserable and oppressed by a system of misrule, the tendency of which went to destroy her energies. The Hon. Member proceeded to point out various acts of extravagance on the part of the Government, which, he said, never would have been sanctioned by the House of Commons had they listened to the voice of the people.

The health of C. H. Hutchinson, Esq. was the next toast.

Mr. HUTCHINSON, in returning thanks, dwelt upon the misgovernment of Ireland since the union, and impressed upon his auditors the expediency of making Irish subjects popular in this coun-

try, for that Ireland possessed resources which would enable her to stand by England and befriend her in the day of trouble. *(Applause.)*

The health of Major Torrens was then drank, and that Gentleman returned thanks in an energetic address.

The toast was followed by that of the "Independent Electors of Southwark."

Mr. HALL returned thanks, and expressed his regret that the Memory of the late Queen had not been included in the list of toasts, and concluded by proposing it.

Sir ROBERT WILSON said, he was sure no one would accuse him of want of respect towards that Illustrious Lady's memory; but he had felt a delicacy in proposing the toast himself, after a recent occurrence, to which it was not necessary for him to allude further, and had therefore waited for it to proceed from some other Gentleman. It had now accordingly been proposed, and he was sure, although last, it would not be the least dear to them.

The toast was than drank by the company upstanding, in solemn silence.—At about 11 o'clock the Chairman withdrew.

LETTERS

TO THE READERS OF THE EXAMINER.

No. 5.—PROMETHEUS UNBOUND (*concluded*).

As a conclusive proof of Mr. Shelley's nonsense, the Reviewer selects one of his passages which most require attention, separates it from its proper context, and turns it into prose: after which he triumphantly informs the reader that this prose is not prose, but "the conclusion of the third act of *Prometheus verbatim et literatim*." Now poetry has often a language as well as music of its own, so distinct from prose, and so universally allowed a right to the distinction (which none are better aware of than the versifiers in the *Quarterly Review*), that secretly to decompose a poetical passage into prose, and then call for a criticism of a reader upon it, is like depriving a body of its distinguishing properties, or confounding their rights and necessities, and then asking where they are. Again, to take a passage abruptly from its context, especially when a context is more than usually necessary to its illustration, is like cutting out a piece of shade from a picture, and reproaching it for want of light. And finally, to select an obscure passage or two from an author, or even to shew that he is often obscure, and then to pretend from these specimens, that he is nothing but obscurity and nonsense, is mere dishonesty.

For instance, Dante is a great genius who is often obscure; but suppose a critic were to pick out one of his obscurest passages, and assert that Dante was a mere writer of jargon. Suppose he were to select one of the metaphysical odes from his *Amoroso Convivio*; or to take a passage from Mr. Cary's translation of his great poem, and turn it into prose for the better mystification of the reader. Here is a specimen:—

"Every orb, corporeal, doth proportion its extent unto the virtue through its parts diffused. The greater blessedness preserves the more. The greater is the body (if all parts share equally) the more is to preserve. Therefore the circle, whose swift course enwheels the universal frame, answers to that, which is supreme in knowledge and in love. Thus by the virtue, not the seeming breadth of substance, measuring, thou shalt see the heavens, each to the intelligence that ruleth it, greater to more, and smaller unto less, suited in strict and wondrous harmony." —*Paradise*, Canto 28.

The lines in question from Mr. Shelley's poem are as follow. A spirit is describing a mighty change that has just taken place on earth. It is the consummation of a state of things, for which all the preceding part of the poem has been yearning:—

> The painted veil, by those who were, called life,
> Which mimicked, as with colours idly spread,
> All men believed and hoped, is torn aside;
> The loathsome mask is fallen, the man remains
> Sceptreless, free, uncircumscribed, but man
> Equal, unclassed, tribeless, and nationless,
> Exempt from awe, worship, degree, the king
> Over himself; just, gentle, wise: but man
> Passionless; no, yet free from guilt or pain,
> Which were, for his will made or suffered them;
> Nor yet exempt, tho' ruling them like slaves,
> From chance, and death, and mutability,
> The clogs of that which else might oversoar
> The loftiest star of unascended heaven,
> Pinnacled dim in the intense inane.

That is to say,—The veil, or superficial state of things, which was called life by those who lived before us, and which had nothing but an idle resemblance to that proper state of things, which we would fain have thought it, is no longer existing. The loathsome mask is fallen; and the being who was compelled to wear it, is now what he ought to be, one of a great family who are their own rulers, just, gentle, wise, and passionless; no, not passionless, though free from guilt or pain, which were only the consequences of their former wilful mistakes; nor are they exempt, though they turn them to the best and most philosophical account, from chance, and death, and mutability; things, which are the clogs of that lofty spirit of humanity, which else might rise beyond all that we can conceive of the highest and happiest star of heaven, pinnacled, like an almost viewless atom, in the space of the universe.—*The intense inane* implies excess of emptiness, and is a phrase of Miltonian construction, like "the palpable obscure" and "the vast abrupt." Where is the unintelligible nonsense of all this? and where is the want of "grammar," with which the "pride" of the Reviewer, as *Mr. Looney M'Twoulter* says, would "come over" him?

Mr Shelley has written a great deal of poetry equally unmetaphysical and beautiful. The whole of the tragedy of the *Cenci*, which the Reviewers do not think it to their interest to notice, is written in a style equally plain and noble. But we need not go farther than the volume before us, though, according to the Reviewer, the "whole" of it does not contain "*one* original image of nature, *one* simple expression of human feeling, or *one* new association of the appearances of the moral with those of the material world." We really must apologize to all intelligent readers who know anything of Mr. Shelley's genius, for appearing to give more notice to these absurdities than they are worth; but there are good reasons why they ought to be exposed. The *Prometheus* has already spoken for itself. Now take the following *Ode to a Skylark*, of which I will venture to say, that there is not in the whole circle of lyric poetry a piece more *full* of "original images of nature, of simple expressions of human feeling, and of the associations of the appearances of the moral with those of the material world." You shall have it entire, for it is as fitting for the season, as it is true to the musical and etherial beauty of its subject.

TO A SKYLARK.

> HAIL to thee, blithe spirit!
> Bird thou never wert,
> That from heaven, or near it,
> Pourest thy full heart
> In profuse strains of unpremeditated art.
>
> Higher still, and higher,
> From the earth thou springest,
> Like a cloud of fire;
> The blue deep thou wingest,
> And singing still dost soar, and soaring ever singest.
>
> In the golden lightning
> Of the sunken sun,
> O'er which clouds are brightning,
> Thou dost float and run,
> Like an unbodied joy whose race is just begun.
>
> The pale purple even
> Melts around thy flight,
> Like a star of heaven
> In the broad day-light:
> Thou art unseen, but still I hear thy shrill delight,
>
> Keen as are the arrows
> Of that silver sphere,
> Whose intense lamp narrows
> In the white dawn clear,
> Until we hardly see, we feel that it is there.
>
> All the earth and air
> With thy voice is loud,
> As when night is bare,
> From one lonely cloud
> The moon rains out her beams, and heaven is overflowed.
>
> What thou art we know not;
> What is most like thee?
> From rainbow clouds there flow not
> Drops so bright to see,
> As from thy presence showers a rain of melody.

Like a poet hidden
In the light of thought,
Singing hymns unbidden,
Till the world is wrought
To sympathy with hopes and fears it heeded not:

Like a high-born maiden
In a palace tower,
Soothing her love laden
Soul in secret hour
With music sweet as love, which overflows her bower;

Like a glow-worm golden
In a dell of dew,
Scattering unbeholden
Its aerial hue
Among the flowers and grass, which screen it from the view:

Like a rose embowered
In its own green leaves,
By warm winds deflowered,
Till the scent it gives
Makes faint with too much sweet those heavy-winged thieves.

Sound of vernal showers
On the twinkling grass,
Rain-awakened flowers,
All that ever was
Joyous, and clear, and fresh, thy music doth surpass.

Teach us, sprite or bird,
What sweet thoughts are thine:
I have never heard
Praise of love or wine
That panted forth a flood of rapture so divine.

Chorus Hymenæal,
Or triumphal chaunt,
Matched with thine would be all
But an empty vaunt,
A thing wherein we feel there is some hidden want.

What objects are the fountains
Of thy happy strain?
What fields, or waves, or mountains?
What shapes of sky or plain?
What love of thine own kind? what ignorance of pain?

With thy clear keen joyance
Languor cannot be;
Shadow of annoyance
Never came near thee:
Thou lovest; but ne'er knew love's sad satiety.

Waking or asleep,
Thou of death must deem
Things more true and deep,
Than we mortals dream,
Or how could thy notes flow in such a crystal stream?

We look before and after,
And pine for what is not:
Our sincerest laughter
With some pain is fraught;
Our sweetest songs are those that tell of saddest thought.

Yet if we could scorn
Hate, and pride, and fear;
If we were things born
Not to shed a tear,
I know not how thy joy we ever should come near.

Better than all measures
Of delightful sound,
Better than all treasures
That in books are found,
Thy skill to poet were, thou scorner of the ground!

Teach me half the gladness
That my brain must know,
Such harmonious madness
From my lips would flow,
The world should listen then, as I am listening now.

I know of nothing more beautiful than this,—more choice of tones, more natural in words, more abundant in exquisite, cordial, and most poetical associations. One gets the stanzas by heart unawares, and repeats them like "snatches of old tunes." To say that nobody who writes in the *Quarterly Review* could produce any thing half as good (unless Mr. Wordsworth writes in it, which I do not believe he does) would be sorry praise. When Mr. Gifford "sings" as the phrase is, one is reminded of nothing but snarling. Mr. Southey, though the gods have made him more poetical than Mr. Gifford, is always affecting something original, and tiring one to death with common-place. "Croker," as Goldsmith says, "rhymes to joker;" and as to the chorus of priests and virgins,—of scribes and pharisees,—which make up the poetical undersong of the Review, it is worthy of the discordant mixture of worldliness and religion, of faith and bad practice, of Christianity and malignity, which finds in it something ordinary enough to merit its approbation.

One passage more from this immoral and anti-christian volume, that contains "not one simple expression of human feeling," and I will close my letter. It is part of "*An Ode, written October* 1819, *before the Spaniards had recovered their liberty:*"—

Glory, glory, glory,
To those who have greatly suffered and done!
Never name in story
Was greater than that which ye shall have won.
Conquerors have conquered their foes alone,
Whose revenge, pride, and power they have overthrown.
Ride ye, more victorious, over your own.

Hear that, ye reverend and pugnacious Christians of the *Quarterly!*

Bind, bind every brow
With crownals of violet, ivy, and pine:
Hide the blood-stains now
With hues which sweet nature has made divine;
Green strength, azure hope, and eternity;
But let not the pansy among them be;
Ye were injured, and that means memory.

How well the Spaniards have acted up to this infidel injunction is well known to the whole of wondering Christendom, and affords one of the happiest presages to the growth of true freedom and philosophy. Why did not the Reviewer quote such passages as these by way of specimens of the author's powers and moral feeling? Why did his boasted Christianity lead him to conceal these, as well as to omit what was necessary to the one quoted in my last? You pretty well understand why by this time; but I have still further elucidations to give, which are more curious than any we have had yet, and which you shall see in my next.—I shake your hands.

FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.

FRANCE.

The estimated revenue of France for 1823 amounts to 909,130,783 francs (36,365,231*l.*) the estimated expenditure to 900,475,593 francs (36,619,011*l.*) and this latter estimate includes the interest of her debt, which amounts only to 228,724,260 francs (9,148,970*l.*) Thus the taxes collected in France, a country with double the population of Great Britain, do not exceed two-thirds of the latter; the whole of her expenditure does not amount to the dividends on the English debt; and her debt does not amount to a fourth part of that of Great Britain.

PORTUGAL.

(Supplement to the 129th Number of the Government Gazette, Sunday, June 2.)

Lisbon.—Irrefragable proofs have at last been discovered of the truth with which the Minister of Justice explained to the sovereign Cortes the necessity of the extraordinary authority which was granted to him for the public safety, and for the sacred cause of the country. Nefarious anarchists and ambitious conspirators designed nothing less than barbarously to stain with blood our happy regeneration, to cover the kingdom with mourning, to depose the King, and to abolish the Cortes. But all their atrocious projects have proved abortive: the conspiracy was discovered; and in the night between the 1st and 2nd of the month, were seized by the Magistrate of the district (Rua Nova) the principal instruments of the conspiracy, at the time when they were taking for distribution from the printing-office in the street *Formosa*, called the *Liberal*, a great number of incendiary and infamous proclamations, in which, and in the plan of the conspiracy, found on the five traitors now imprisoned, it appears that, with a few slight variations, are contained the following anarchical and horrible ideas:—To dissolve the present Cortes, and convoke the old, with some modifications, such as having two chambers, one of them consisting of hereditary members and of the first nobility: to

depose the beneficent and magnanimous King John VI. who has so faithfully and openly adhered to the cause of the constitution and of national liberty, and in his place to elevate the Infant Don Michael, at the head of a regency, composed of men the most conspicuous and respectable, who have declared themselves enemies of the system by which happily we are governed: to assassinate those Members of the Cortes and of the Ministry who are the most able and celebrated defenders of the national rights: in one word, to throw the whole nation into a state of confusion and civil war, of bloodshed, disorder, and anarchy, the advantage of which was to be reaped by these infamous conspirators, and by others like themselves who probably will be found engaged in the same plot.

The persons who have already been apprehended will appear from the list following:—

Francis de Alpoim and Menezes, a merchant, aged 32, &c.

Januarius de Costa Neves, Knight of the Order of Christ, Officer in the Military Secretariat of the Army, aged 33, &c.

Manuel Ferreira, a servant, aged 19, &c.

John Rodrigues da Costa Simoens, composing apprentice in the printing-office already mentioned, aged 18.

IRELAND.

Ministers have supported their demand of a renewal of the Insurrection Act in Ireland by another communication to Parliament of various documents, transmitted by the Lord-Lieutenant. These papers contain a series of reports from Magistrates and others, descriptive of the state of the country; which, so far as regards the open perpetration of crime, is said to be improving. But notwithstanding the cessation of their movements in the open field, the insurgents have not refrained from the frequent commission of that class of outrages which indicate the continuance of a stubborn and hostile spirit. Violence and terror have been employed systematically, although with some abatement of their previous activity, not in Munster alone, but throughout all the provinces, as means of rendering three descriptions of persons subservient to the will of the multitude—that landlords might be forced to reduce their rents—in-coming tenants to abandon their farms—and witnesses of the Crown to withhold their information, on pain of death, or some barbarous bodily outrage. In Connaught, the Lord Lieutenant "has reason to believe that the great body of the population has been sworn." In Ulster, "although great outrages have occurred, the general condition of that province is exempt from any open appearance of insurrection," and the offences committed have been such as may be met and "corrected in the ordinary course of law, with due aid of an effective police." "Although the province of *Leinster*, generally, presents inconsiderable appearances of public disorder, the *great sources of calamity, as well as the irritating causes of discontent*, exist in this province to the most alarming extent."—Lord Wellesley insists upon the abatement of open violence through the application of the Insurrection Act, and on the visible duration of an evil spirit, manifested by the obstinate retention of the plundered arms, or the colourable and treacherous surrender of those which were unfit for service, as grounds of almost equal urgency for the renewal of the measure.

Irish Distresses.—The accounts from Ireland are still quite appalling. In the parish of Kilbrogan, Bandon, 1,834 persons are destitute of the means of procuring subsistance.—*Cork Chronicle*.—One man was found dead on the road side at Aughcleggine. The Coroner's Inquest returned a verdict—"That his death was caused by hunger."—*Dublin Journal*.—A letter from Leitrim, dated June 9, says, "The wants and poverty of this parish (Killtoghert) are truly distressing. Wheels, reels for spinning, the wretched implements of industry, the bed-clothes and women's cloaks, all sold for food before the householders would come forward to their assistance. The one cow has been bled several times, and then slaughtered for the relief of the indigent sufferers."

UNITED PARLIAMENT.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

Tuesday, June 18.

MARRIAGE ACT AMENDMENT BILL.

Lord Ellenborough observed upon the evils arising from the facility which the present state of the law afforded for dissolving marriage contracts. The prospective object of the bill was to prevent marriages from being nullified in consequence of not complying with the terms of the Marriage Act, but to give to parents and guardians a certain time within which they might institute suits to annul marriages contracted without the requisite consents, such marriages after the expiration of that time to become valid. The retrospective operation of the bill would make good existing marriages.—The first clause of the bill was agreed to. The consideration of the second clause, the object of which is to give parents and guardians the power of voiding marriages until the parties attained the age of 21, was postponed to another day.

Wednesday, June 19.

After some conversation, the clause for giving to parents and guardians a certain period to institute suits to annul the marriages of minors without consent, was put to the vote and negatived. The retrospective clause was then discussed, when the clauses proposed by Lord Ellenborough, to prevent further evil arising from the nullifying of marriages for want of consent, or defect of form under the operation of the Marriage Act, were passed, extending their operation to the rendering valid all marriages which had taken place since 1754, the date of the Marriage Act, with the exception of those which had been declared null, and of those where the parties, aware of the nullity of the first marriage, had contracted a second; and with a proviso, that dignities, honours, and property, whether they had descended to the children of any such marriage, or in consequence of its acknowledged nullity to the heir at law, should remain in the possession of those persons to whom they had descended, and their descendants; with some other amendments.

Thursday, June 20.

The West India and American Trade Bills were passed.

Friday, June 21.

ROMAN CATHOLIC PEERS BILL.

On the Duke of Portland's moving the second reading of this bill, it was opposed by Lord Colchester, who said, that if agreed to, it would give the Roman Catholics the keys of both Houses of Parliament;—by Lords Liverpool and Redesdale, and the Lord-Chancellor, who contended that it was high time this agitating question was set at rest; and maintained, that if ever the demands of the Catholics were acceded to, the liberties, the religion, and the laws of the country, would be at an end.—The motion was supported by Lords Erskine, Grey, Grenville, and Holland, the latter Noble Lord, alluding to the alledged fears of the Chancellor, asked what the Learned Lord had to apprehend? Did he imagine (said Lord Holland) that the moment the Catholic Peers had taken their seats, they would pull from under the table a Bull of the Pope, for the purpose of overturning the religion and laws of the land? (*Hear, hear!*) Such an idea was quite ridiculous, and yet there was no other objection to the bill.—On a division, the motion was negatived by a majority of 171 to 129.—Adjourned at one o'clock.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

Monday, June 17.

MODE OF PAYMENT OF LABOURERS.

Mr. Littleton presented petitions for interference to enjoin a more strict observance of the law directing that labourers should be paid only in money, and not in provisions, &c.

Mr. F. Robinson thought that no law could be framed that could not be evaded.

Mr. Hume thought that the employer should be left free to pay his labourers in any way that could be agreed upon, and that the present law ought to be repealed.

RELIEF OF IRELAND.

Mr. V. Fitzgerald enquired what had been, and what was intended to be done, for the relief of the Irish? The charity exercised towards them would not support the people till the ensuing harvest.

Mr. Goulburn said, that the Irish Government had formed a Committee for ascertaining the best means of relief, and had placed 50,000*l.* at the disposal of the Lord-Lieutenant. A discretionary power had been given to employ the people in public works.

Mr. J. Smith was sure that the Committee had not done enough. Accounts from Ireland were more distressing than ever: 99,639 inhabitants in Clare, and 132,000 in Cork, were without subsistence. The very first duty of a Government was to prevent the people from starving. (*Hear, hear!*)

Mr. S. Rice said, that the funds, though doubled or tripled, would not relieve the sufferings of the Irish.

Sir J. Newport was of opinion, that if they would not employ the people, their charity would only break down their spirit. (*Hear!*)

Mr. Peel said, that this was a question which set political economy at defiance. The question was, how the greatest quantity of good could be done. As every exertion was making, he hoped the House would not press the discussion further.

SCOTCH BURGHS.

Several petitions were presented against the Royal Burgh Account Bill, complaining, amongst other things, of the dangerous powers it gives to self-elected magistrates.

Lord A. HAMILTON said, that no two things could be more opposite than the abuses complained of by almost every Royal Burgh in Scotland, and confirmed by Committees of the House, and the bill of the Learned Lord Advocate. It referred only to the accounts, which did not constitute one-tenth of the demonstrated abuses, especially the paramount abuse of self-election.

The LORD-ADVOCATE trusted he should prove to the Committee, that the bill was an adequate remedy for *practical abuses*, without violating the *chartered rights* of the Scotch *people*, and was founded on the report of a Committee.—This was denied by Mr. T. P. GRANT, who said, he knew of no rights by which self-elected magistrates voted themselves into office in perpetuity, exercised an arbitrary disposition over the property of others, and the return of Members to the House.

Mr. HUME said, no chartered rights could support injustice. It was his own wish to oppose the bill altogether, but as several of his friends thought that it held out a promise of improvement, he would not oppose it.

Mr. W. SMITH approved of the clause which inflicted a penalty of 500*l.* on a magistrate abusing his trust. He wished some such law applied to English boroughs, where the election of corporate officers was often as barefacedly corrupt as it frequently was in the election of Members to that House. *(A laugh.)*

The House went through the clauses of the bill, during which Mr. Grant's amendment for the better auditing of the accounts was lost by a majority of 18.

RELIEF OF IRELAND—PUBLIC WORKS.

The House voted 2,000,000*l.* of exchequer bills (of which 250,000*l.* was for the relief of Ireland, and 150,000*l.* having been previously laid out for that object) for the purpose of carrying on public works and encouraging the fisheries. After several questions put to the CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER by Mr. HUME, that Hon. Gentleman observed, that it appeared to him that the money would be merely placed at the disposal of the Government to do what they pleased with.

Wednesday, June 19.

Mr. Alderman WOOD presented a petition from John Knight, complaining of cruel treatment he had received during his confinement in the Castle of Lancaster, for having attended a peaceable Meeting at Lancaster. The petitioner had been put to hard labour, which was no part of his sentence.

Mr. COURTENAY obtained leave to bring in a bill to punish with hard labour misdemeanours of a particular character, such as assaults accompanied with aggravated circumstances.

COUNTY COURT FOR RECOVERING SMALL DEBTS.

Mr. LENNARD presented a petition from 4,000 of the Householders and Traders of Middlesex, complaining of the conduct of the County Clerk of Middlesex. He regretted that the Petitioners had not confined themselves to a statement of the large amount of the fees, producing an emolument far beyond what was contemplated when the Court was instituted; and to the inconveniences arising from the infrequency of sittings, and the distance necessary to be travelled in order to attend the Court; because he feared the very strenuous friends the County Clerk had in that House, when they found some attack was made on the Clerk himself, would, in their zeal for the defence of the Clerk, extend it to the Court itself, and thereby his cause would be injured. He was convinced that it would not be long that the House would allow such a salary to be received (equal to half the net salary of a Judge) without being satisfied that all that could be done was done for the suitors.

Mr. COURTENAY said, that the petition did not represent the feeling of the County of Middlesex, but that it emanated from individuals who were actuated by the worst motives. He denied, on the authority of the Chief Judge of the Court, that any fees had been taken by the Chief Clerk which were not sanctioned by Act of Parliament; and the mode of redress pointed out by the act was by application to the three Chief Justices.

Dr. LUSHINGTON expressed his astonishment at the conclusion at which the Learned Gentleman had arrived. Was it candid to attribute malignant motives to 4,000 individuals, and to move for the rejection of the petition, upon the unsupported *ipse dixit* of the party accused? The petitioners did not merely complain of the extortion of fees, but they complained that the Chief Judge did not sit so often as the interests of justice required. Nearly 18,000 cases were heard annually, and the Judge only sat twice a week, so that he must dispose of 180 causes a day. It was utterly impossible that they could be disposed of with this extraordinary expedition, consistently with the interests of the suitors. As to redress by application to the three Chief Justices, was it likely that suitors in cases under the amount of 40*s.* could resort to such an expensive mode of proceeding?

Mr. WYNN said, that he could not consent to the reception of a petition which contained an attack on the character of the Judge on *ex-parte* statements.

Mr. HOBHOUSE saw with regret the petitions of the people rejected without sufficient grounds. To reject the petition of 4,000 persons was carrying the joke a little too far. The character of the Learned Gentleman who presided in the Court, was more likely to be affected by a refusal to receive the allegations of 4,000 persons who declared themselves to be aggrieved.—The petition was laid on the table.

LICENSING SYSTEM.

Mr. JAMES presented a petition from a person named Priddle, who kept a public-house in Tintonhull, near Ilchester, from 1805 to 1821, during which time his character had been unimpeached, and he had creditably reared a numerous family. Having, in common with the other inhabitants, illuminated his house on the throwing out of the Bill of Penalties against her late Majesty, he was soon after deprived of his license on a charge of irregularity, but in reality, on account of participating in the general feeling manifested on the Queen's trial. The petitioner accused two Magistrates of unjust exercise of authority, and observed, that his occupation was thereby destroyed, his property ruined, and his wife and children driven to the parish. The Hon. Member said, that the conduct of the Magistrates alluded to would not appear very strange, when it was known that they were two of the notorious Visiting Magistrates of Ilchester Gaol; and if the allegations in the petition were correct, they only proved that their conduct was as tyrannical without the walls of that Bastille, as it had been culpably negligent within.—Ordered to lie on the table.

CORN BILL.

The Corn Importation Bill was read a third time and passed, after Messrs. CURWEN and WESTERN had strongly objected to the importing price of Corn being reduced to 70*s.*

TITHES IN IRELAND.

Mr. DALY withdrew his motion on the subject of Irish Tithes, on being told by Mr. GOULBURN, that at the opening of the next Session he would either make a motion on the subject, or state the reasons why he did not do so.

Mr. HUME expatiated on the necessity of losing no time in alleviating the miseries of Ireland, whose military establishment cost 2,000,000*l.* instead of 500,000*l.* a year, its former expense. Independently of the oppressive acts of misgovernment, he considered the whole establishment of the Church Government as the mainspring of disaffection, and tithes were in the front. He contended that Church property had no affinity whatever to private property. Church property had been originally granted to support the religion of the State; it followed that it was in the power of Government to change the disposition of that property, bearing in mind that those who had vested interests in it were entitled to enjoy it as long as they lived. The acts of every country on the Continent supported this principle. The Church Establishment was not a part of the Christian Religion. This was Paley's opinion. To leave the Irish population in a state of anarchy and blood, was unjust to the people of England, who paid for military establishments deemed necessary to keep down the unfortunate wretches in Ireland. If protection was refused to them, resistance to oppression was their first duty, as it would be their last resource. *(Hear, hear, hear?)* The Irish would be less than men if they submitted to it as a permanent system, and the Irish were not less than men. *(Cheers.)* Neither Archbishops nor Bishops in Ireland did their duty. The Hon. Member here read a petition to Lord Blancy from the inhabitants of Castle Blancy relative to their want of a resident Rector, and his Lordship's answer, in which he says that the system complained of appeared to have no other object than to banish Gentlemen of property from their estates, and to deprive their tenantry of the advantages of their residence. By a return made to that House, it appeared that there were 1,270 benefices in Ireland, 2,232 parishes, 1,142 churches—192 benefices were with resident clergy. There were 1,773 incumbents, and 507 non-residents. After that return, men might talk about religion, and no set of men were more in the habit of canting about religion than his Majesty's Ministers *(Cheers)*; but it was clear that these numerous non-residents left their country and neglected their duties with the sanction and approbation of the Bishops. But these abuses naturally grew out of the system so long pursued in Ireland—that system embraced not so much the cause of religion, as the elevation of the younger branches of the leading families in Ireland—to the injury of religion—to the lasting disgrace of the Church. The interests and honour of both were postponed, and the influence of the establishment made subservient to the ambition of the aristocracy. So great were the

abuses which prevailed in the Church of Ireland, that Bishops receiving 10,000l. and 20,000l. a year for their spiritual labours and holy zeal, remained absent from the country for twenty years together. (*Hear, hear, hear!*) The late Bishop of Derry remained for fifteen or twenty years with his family in France—for that time he never set his feet on the ground which contributed so largely to his revenues. The revenues of the Archbishop of Armagh amounted to 15,000l. a year; but it appeared by the statement of Mr. Wakefield, that the rates and rents of the archbishoprick might be made to amount to 140 or 150,000l. a year; that immense revenue was in the hands of the Bishop, and would descend to his successors, the junior branches of the leading families. The revenue arising from the sees alone would, if properly managed, be more than sufficient to support the Established Church, and to pay the Catholic Clergy beside—a measure which he would warmly support, because he thought they were entitled to an allowance—and because the payment of the Clergy by Parliament would greatly tend to destroy religious distinctions, and to establish tranquillity in that country. His motion might be met by the declaration that they should have a Church connected with the State; from every such principle he begged to dissent. He said, that a State which could not exist without a Church, ought not to exist. (*Hear, hear!*) In France, tithes were abolished, and the Clergy paid by the State. Their Archbishops had 800l., the Bishops 600l. a year. The Bishops in Ireland ought to have their allowances equalized, to take away the temptation to translations, and with it that Crown influence which made them so notoriously subservient in the exercise of their political functions. In Sweden, the Archbishops had 3 or 400l. a year. "In Denmark," said a work of great authority on the continent, "the Clergy were generally richer than most Protestant Clergymen;" and the cause of this wealth was, that they had one-third of the tithes. In Wirtemberg, the State supported the Clergy for only 87,000l. The pretence for non-residents in many cases was the want of glebe houses. Yet Parliament had voted 6 or 700,000l. to build glebe houses, and to augment the incomes of Curates. He had looked a little to the application of this money, and he found that sums were not granted to those parishes which had *no* funds, but to those the funds of which the Dignitaries of the Church enjoyed. (*Hear!*) The Bishops, acting as Commissioners of Glebe and First Fruits, voted to their Curates the sums which they should have paid them. Thus, to add to the incomes of the overpaid Clergy of Ireland, money was in reality taken from the people of England. He then referred to the returns of the Clergy holding benefices in the Diocese of Armagh—to shew the enormous extent of pluralities and united livings—A Sir T. Foster held 4,670 acres of glebe attached to one parish, and he had tithe over 12,000 acres in another; Sir C. Beresford had a Rectory with 4,000 acres of glebe, besides 1,300 acres in another living in Kilmore; the Honourable C. Knox had four livings, in one of which there were 529 acres of glebe; the Honourable W. Knox, two livings; and the Honourable Spencer Knox, three Rectories, with one of which there were four hundred acres of glebe. He concluded by moving, "That early in the next Session this House will enter upon an inquiry into the state of the Church Establishment, and the mode of collecting tithes, in Ireland, with a view to make such alterations as may be found necessary."

Mr. Ellice seconded the motion, and said, it was not only the tithes, but the state of the whole Church Establishment in Ireland that demanded investigation. He was glad his Honourable Friend professed strictly to guard the interests of the present incumbents. The Attorney-General of Ireland had said, that "it was difficult to touch this subject on account of the rights of property." What was said to be the property of the Church, was national property, appropriated to the payment of clergymen.

Sir J. Newport said, that one of the promises held out at the Union by Mr. Pitt in this country, and by Lord Castlereagh in Ireland, was, that a commutation of tithes should take place immediately. But that promise had been falsified, and indeed every promise upon the occasion, except the private bargains entered into with individuals. Ireland consented to the Union upon the promise of an equalization of privileges and a commutation of tithes. The House was bound to make good the promise. The Hon. Baronet moved as an Amendment, that the House should *pledge* itself to take the subject of tithes into consideration early the next Session, with a view to substitute a mode of providing for the Established Church different from the present vexatious and injurious system.

Mr. Goulburn objected to the entering into any pledge as inexpedient. It often happened in the many instances of non-residents, that the Curates were perfectly capable of supplying their places. Under the present system, the Clergy got less than they were entitled to by law.

Mr. Rice said, that if Ministers did not exert themselves to pour balm into the wounds of Ireland, measures of coercion would be unavailing, for they would be regarded only as the instruments of a heartless and despotic government.

Mr. Peel said, that if Parliament were to give a pledge, and afterwards be unable to redeem it, the worst consequences might result from the disappointment of excited hopes.

Mr. Brougham observed, that all that Ministers would say, was, that they would take six months, in addition to the 30 years, since which the same kind of promise was given to the people of Ireland; so that after 30 years and 6 months, the people would be again told that the difficulties were insurmountable, and nothing to be done.

Mr. Hutchinson, alluding to the papers before the House, in which the Lord Lieutenant dwelt upon the sanction which the pledge of the House would give to the measure proposed to redress violence and disorder, asked whether it was only when passing measures of severity that the pledge of that House was valuable? Was it only when it pledged itself to take away the constitutional securities of Ireland, and devote his unhappy countrymen to dungeons and exile?

Mr. Plunkett said, that if the positions of the Hon. Member for Montrose were acted upon, they would shake not only that *little* which was the property of the Church, but very speedily the rents of the landholder, and the dividends of the stockholder. He could not support the demand of a pledge, because it might, in the interval, produce great alarm in the minds of the Clergy, and the possibility that the sad reality would terminate in deep and bitter resentment.

For Sir J. Newport's Amendment, (Mr. Hume having withdrawn his motion) 65,—Against it, 72—Majority, 7.

Thursday, June 20.

The Bill for consolidating the Provinces of Upper and Lower Canada, was read a first time.

SCOTCH JURIES.

Mr. Kennedy moved the second reading of the Scotch Jury Bill, by which the selection of Petit Juries in criminal cases, was to be by Ballot, and not by the presiding Judge, and that a power of peremptory challenge was to be given to the prosecutor and prosecuted. The circumstances of the existing law were—1st. That the Lord Advocate had the power of committing for trial without the intervention of a Grand Jury; 2. That in the High Court of Justiciary, the Presiding Judge first selected the Grand Jury of 45 from lists furnished him by the Sheriffs, and also picked the Petit Jury of 15 out of those 45; 3. That neither the prosecutor nor the party to be tried had the power of challenging even one Juryman without shewing cause; 4. That in the case of Jury Trials before the Sheriffs, the matter was still worse, as the Sheriffs had the whole power of selecting the Jury; 5. That in Edinburgh, where the Sittings of the Court of Justiciary were, some variations excepted, permanent, the Judges selected the Jury from lists furnished by the Clerks of Justiciary.—The Bill was read a second time.

SMALL BANK NOTES BILL.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer said that the Bank of England would be allowed to make issues of one pound notes payable on demand in specie, and that Country Bankers would have the option of paying in Bank of England notes or in specie.

Friday, June 21.

The further consideration of the Warehousing Bill was postponed till next Session; the Prison Laws Constitution Bill was proceeded in; and the House voted a hundred thousand pounds for the employment of the Irish Labouring Poor.—Adjourned at two o'clock, till Monday.

LONDON GAZETTE.

Tuesday, June 18.

BANKRUPTCY SUPERSEDED.

M. Westron, Wellington, Somersetshire, mercer.

BANKRUPTS.

T. S. and J. Beaumont, Leicester, bankers. Solicitor, Mr. Jeyes, Chancery-lane.

J. Ralfs, Freshwater, Isle of Wight, corn-dealer. Solicitors, Messrs. Sewell and Hearn, Newport.

R. Henderson, Lowthian-Gill, Cumberland, corn-dealer. Solicitor, Mr. Addison, Verulam-buildings.

J. Lowry, Bunker's-hill, Cumberland, lead ore-miner. Solicitor, Mr. Clennell, Staple-inn.

W. Peell, Bromyard, Herefordshire, builder. Solicitors, Messrs. Williams and White, Lincoln's-inn.

T. Chasey, East Pennard, Somersetshire, butcher. Solicitor, Mr. Burfoot, Inner Temple.

W. Bolton, Banbury, Oxfordshire, and T. Bolton, Grimsbury, Northamptonshire, coal-merchants. Solicitors, Messrs. Meyrick and Broderip, Red Lion-square.

G. Lyall, North Shields, merchant. Solicitor, Mr. Francis, Sun-court, Cornhill.

S. Abbott, Cumming-place, Pentonville, merchant. Solicitors, Messrs. Bovill and Tustin, Bride-court, Blackfriars.

Saturday, June 22.

BANKRUPTS.

T. Bedson and R. Bishop, Aston, Birmingham, brass-founders. Solicitor, Mr. Edmunds, Exchequer-office of Pleas, Lincoln's-inn.

J. Lidster, jun., Stockport, Chester, money-scrivener. Solicitor, Mr. Back, Temple.

G. Bell, Brampton, Cumberland, grocer. Solicitors, Messrs. Bell and Brodrick, Bow Church-yard.

J. Harland, Bedford-house, Tottenham-court-road, haberdasher. Solicitor, Mr. W. C. Smith, Basinghall-street.

L. Nathan, Villiers-street, Strand, pen-manufacturer. Solicitor, Mr. Isaacs, Mansell-street, Goodman's-fields.

M. Westron, Wellington, draper. Solicitors, Messrs. Adams and Tilleard, Old Jury.

J. Cross, Halewood, Lancaster, brewer. Solicitors, Messrs. Adlington and Co., Bedford-row.

J. Gayleard, New Bond-street, habit-maker. Solicitor, Mr. Bull, Hollis-street, Cavendish-square.

W. Todd, and F. W Courthorpe, Langbourn-Chambers, Fenchurch-street, timber-merchants. Solicitors, Messrs. Hodgson and Ogden, Saint Mildred's Court, City.

E. Harris, Copthall-buildings, broker. Solicitor, Mr. Hartley, New Bridge-street, Blackfriars.

THE FUNDS.—The only operation of consequence upon the market of this week has been produced by the important intimation of the Bank of England in respect to its terms of Discount, which has raised Consols nearly one per cent. There has been much invention in the way of Spanish news to depress Spanish Bonds, but the exaggeration begins now to be understood, and it is discredited accordingly. Latest Quotation :—

Consols	shut	Four per Cents	97 3/4
Reduced	80 1/8	Consols for Account	81 1/8

THE EXAMINER.

LONDON, JUNE 23.

THE foreign intelligence of the week is not important; for though there has been a Divine-right Conspiracy in Portugal, the object of which was to overthrow the present order of things by violence and murder, it has made little or no sensation even in Lisbon—so satisfied are the people with their new Constitution. It is curious to observe how the Ministerial writers treat these attempts at re-action in the Peninsula. Not a word, observe, in reprobation, when the object is to put down liberty and put up despotism, even though the means to be used are the very foulest and bloodiest that can be resorted to. No; all their disapprobation and horror of revolutions is limited to those which have for their object the liberation of the suffering many from the oppression of the tyrannous few. What a howl of lamentation is raised, when a King is compelled, however peaceably, to rule by and according to law; but when a "loyal" conspiracy is detected, which could only have been successful by the aid of the axe, the gibbet, and assassination—the whole matter is passed over with less notice than if it had been a night-brawl or a St. Giles's riot. And these writers are Britons, too,—at least in name!—From the Turkish provinces there is no authentic intelligence. Some accounts say, that peace is by no means certain; that the Turkish army has not evacuated Moldavia and Wallachia; and that the "Sublime" Porte is only cheating the Russians by a pretended submission, in order to gain time to complete its warlike arrangements. This may be all true, for it is equally conformable to ancient and to "legitimate" practice: but a letter from Vienna, in the French papers of Wednesday, dated the 8th inst., says that the Plenipotentiaries of Russia, Austria, and the Porte, are shortly to meet at Kaminieck in Podolia, to come to a definitive settlement.—The *Gazette de France*, of Wednesday last, announces that Gen. BERTHON has at length been arrested near Saumur, which town, it will be recollected, he attempted to seize upon some months back.—A Royal Congress at Florence is still spoken of as likely to be held in August.

The *Courier* scribe is almost frantic at the proceedings at the late Southwark Dinner, and in his rage pours forth much abuse upon the various Speakers, particularly Mr. LAMBTON. The manly sentiments and judicious observations of this gentleman being beyond the said scribe's power fairly to decry or answer, he most earnestly recommends them to the official notice of the ATTORNEY-GENERAL! This at any rate is discreet, for the knave knows full well that his friend, Mr. ATTORNEY, when *he* tries his strength with a political enemy, never quarrels with the *truth* of the matter, but with its alleged tendency to danger; meaning thereby, danger to the system by which Crown Lawyers, Government Scribes, and other such worthies, put so much money into their pockets.—The *Courier* seems to marvel how a man of property can be a friend to liberty; as if there was absolutely nothing in the world worth caring for but money—as if the general welfare, just laws, and their honest administration, were mere dust in the balance, when weighed against the possession of pounds, shillings, and pence!—This may be good Court logic, but Mr. LAMBTON has learnt his lesson in a different school; and the "golden *opinions*" he is in consequence winning from "all sorts of men"—(placemen and hirelings excepted)—will doubtless remunerate him for any other kind of loss he may sustain in his honourable career. His speech, even as abridged in our paper, will be found highly interesting, both for its home truths and fine spirit. Indeed, the tone of all the Speakers at this Meeting was excellent—and hence the overflowing gall of the *Courier*. There wanted nothing but the presence of Sir FRANCIS BURDETT (kept away by indisposition) to have made this public Meeting one of the most distinguished of the time; but the worthy Baronet's heart and soul, we venture to say, were with the assembled band, for the objects they so well advocated, he, too, has been all his life struggling for, with a consistency and firmness seldom to be found in public men. And if we are not grievously in error, he will triumph yet in witnessing the day of retribution and reform, in spite of the malignant calls for legal vengeance of the *Courier*, or, what is of far more weight, the corrupt power of its patrons.

Letters have been received from Chumpee, dated the 19th February, which contain the news that the dispute with the Chinese has been accommodated, not by the sacrifice of blood, but by a more persuasive argument—money. An American Chinaman, arrived off the Start, reports that the sum paid is more than half a million of dollars, which, with the demurrage for the delay of thirteen Indiamen, renders the day's sport of the boat's crew of his Majesty's ship, Topaze, tolerably expensive to the Honourable Company. The chop was hourly expected, to enable the ships to load their cargoes; and the Kent was to sail on the 24th February, with further particulars.

The public are under an additional obligation to Mr. Hume, for the lucid and accurate developement he made of the state of Church Property in Ireland. Some monstrous abuses were disclosed in the course of the discussion. The practice of *uniting parishes* appears to have been carried to a scandalous length. The patronage of nearly all the benefices in Ireland is in the Bishops and the Crown. To gratify the cupidity of the lucky individuals who command preferment in that unhappy country, the Bishops have been in the habit of consenting to the consolidation of parishes, for the purpose of augmenting their revenues. Sir John Newport stated instances of as many as *ten* parishes having been laid into one—where they were all so large as to make it a day's journey to go to and return from church in any one of them! He added, *proh pudor!* that upon inquiries instituted into some of these abominations, the answers of the Bishops, as to the same facts, had *varied;* and upon sifting the cause of the discrepancy, it appeared that the softened statements came from Bishops, whose sons, by their own acts, were enjoying the profits of the abuse! It was stated also, that many persons holding livings, to the number of four and more, with glebes, in addition to the tithes, up to the amount of five thousand acres, were not only Non-residents, but altogether Absentees from the kingdom. With respect to the Bishops, themselves, it seems that they possess two-elevenths of the whole surface of Ireland, or nearly one acre in five. Twenty-two obscure individuals (chiefly of noblemen's families) promoted, as was forcibly observed in the debate, "*to enrich themselves and disgrace the Church,*" not only hold these immense estates, but a great property also in tithes. By various subtil legal devices, they contrive to give to the remotest branches of their respective connexions, a comfortable *slice* of these good things. As to their *personal* claims to these honours and riches, the very suggestion may provoke a smile, since it has been avowed that lucrative appointments must be given to strengthen the influence of the Crown, and majorities in the House of Commons have sanctioned the impudent avowal. Thus we have seen *three* members of one family, known only by bearing the name of a Ministerial Marquess, at one time upon the Bench, the junior of whom has just been preferred to the Primacy, being the second Archiespiscopal mitre they have obtained since the Union.

By an unaccountable fatality, the state of the Irish establishment has been unknown in England. The facts, however, now are no longer concealed. The Marquis of Lansdown, in his temperate and argumentative speech, stated that the Protestants, for whose spiritual welfare, all this enormous mass of wealth is now appropriated, amount to only one-fourteenth of the whole population, a number short of 500,000.

It should be remembered, when the fact is before us of 800,000 starving Irishmen, that this property is not encumbered with a poor-rate—that it was not reduced at the period of the Survey, in the reign of Henry the Eighth, that the possessors of it are almost sinecurists, that it was orignally granted for the purpose of maintaining the poor, as well as the priests; and when these circumstances are daily weighed, it cannot be doubted, though there may be little chance of legislative reformation, but that the corrective of public opinion, at no great distance of time, will be effectually applied.—*Morning Chronicle.*

In the year 1821 there were 1587 commissions of bankruptcy issued, 11 of which were against bankers.

Edinburgh Jury Court, June 19.—The cause, Lord A. Hamilton against Duncan Stevenson, printer and publisher of the *Beacon*, came on this day in the Jury Court. Mr. Cockburn opened the case for the prosecutor, and Mr. M'Neil replied for the defender. The Jury retired for half an hour, and returned with a verdict finding for the prosecutor, with one shilling damages.—*Edinburgh Weekly Journal.*

The trial of William Murray Borthwick, accused of stealing documents from the Sentinel-office, has been given up, and he is now at liberty.—*Edinburgh Courant.*

It is reported that a son of Mr. Plunkett, has just received a place worth 1,200l. a year in Ireland. Perhaps this appointment is made for the purpose of relieving Irish distress!

A Committee of the House of Commons is examining into the concerns of the stationary and printing departments for the service of Government. Some curious things, it is said, are likely to come out by the inquiry. The charge for printing alone for the last year amounted to near 200,000l.

Reduction of Discount.—The following is the official notification from the Bank:—

"*Bank of England, 20th June,* 1822.

"Resolved, That all bills and notes approved of in the usual manner, and not having more than 95 days to run, be discounted at the rate of Four per Cent. per annum, on and after the 21st of June, 1822."

Sir John Cox Hippisley's Letter, in reply to Mr. Hunt's observations on the Prison of Shepton-Mallet, shall appear in our next.

The Lords, as was expected, have thrown out the Roman Catholic Peers' Bill: the majority was forty-two. When will this mockery cease?

The Friends of Civil and Religious Liberty in Glasgow gave a Dinner, on Tuesday week, to John Lawless, Esq. the Editor of the *Irishman*, a very able and spirited Journal published in Belfast. Mr. Lawless was at the same time presented with a handsome piece of plate.

COURT AND FASHIONABLES.

(From the Court Circular.)

On Thursday evening his Majesty gave his annual ball and supper to the juvenile branches of the nobility and persons of distinction, on the return of the season of their Midsummer holidays. His Majesty, with that due regard to avoid any restraints upon the festivities of the evening, dispensed with state observances. The entertainment was given in the lower suit of rooms. His Majesty, with a due regard to the early habits of his juvenile visitors, invited them at half-past eight o'clock. They arrived soon afser, accompanied by their parents, with expressive joy and delight beaming on all their counte nances, on the anticipated high honour and great delight they were about to participate in. Their dresses were evidently all new for the occasion,—the young ladies, fanciful frocks, &c. and the young gentlemen, short blue coats or jackets, and generally white trowsers. His Majesty was ready to receive them upon their first arrival, and by his usual kind and affectionate caresses, relieved them from that natural awe and restraint which would be impressed upon their tender minds, in being sensible of being in the presence of the august personage of their King, who, by his condescending familiarities with them, *proved himself to be literally their "nursing father."* Dancing commenced at a quarter before nine. At twelve o'clock the Gothic-hall and rooms adjoining were opened for supper, when his Majesty took his seat, surrounded by his juvenile visitors, who were attended by their noble and distinguished parents.—After supper, waltzing commenced by the parents, &c. till about a quarter past one o'clock, when the company broke up, highly delighted with the entertainment.

THEATRICAL EXAMINER.

HAYMARKET.

WE attended this Theatre on Monday evening, the second night of performance, in order to renew an acquaintance with a scite, which, owing to early association, is peculiarly pleasant to us; and with the additional inducement of witnessing the *debut* of a young Lady as *Polly* in the *Beggars' Opera*. The Theatre being opened on the first night for the benefit of the suffering Irish, the major part of whom are Catholics, the *town*, which has been altogether *Orange* in regard to these benefits, attended very partially; but on the night of our visit, it being quite clear that nothing was to be done for the advantage of *Papists*, it was most respectably filled. The regular entertainment of the evening was prefaced with a sort of introductory Extravaganza, intitled the *Bill of Fare*, constructed in such a way, as to exhibit nearly the whole of the company. The frame of it is simple enough. *Sam Strutt*, a provincial manager, advertises for actors, who are to attend him at Hoaxley's Hotel, dressed in character. *Sam Stingo*, an innkeeper, makes known his want of a set of servants in precisely the same way, and with the same initials. Thus tempted, it becomes the business of one of those professed jokers, who exist for our amusement *on* the stage, and our annoyance *off* it, to direct all the applicants to the wrong S. S. What follows may be easily imagined, the broadest farce, equivoque, and confusion, to the dropping of the curtain. With respect to acting, there is but little to be said, but that little is good. TERRY represented the provincial manager, who is evidently the TATE WILKINSON of Mathews,—a manager of the old full dress school, in whose mouth some pleasant quaintnesses upon actors and acting, the *advantages of small over large theatres*, and so on, are put with tolerable felicity. OXBERRY is all *breadth* in the innkeeper; and contrives to find out, very characteristically, that play-houses are pestilential places, because they keep people out of public-houses. The rest of the humour consists in the showing off of the actors and actresses applying for engagements; in which Mrs. CHATTERLEY becomes the "actress of all work," and displays considerable versatility; but to say the truth, that path has been worn to death, and we are becoming accordingly weary of it. Not so the audience in general, who seemed perfectly satisfied. Upon the whole, this trifle may pass as an opening specimen of frolic; but it is scarcely worthy of a Theatre, which has been peculiarly happy in these pleading, apologistical, and introductory pieces of theatrical humour, from the merry days of FOOTE, down to the very skirts of the now existing age of melo-drama and spectacle.

Of the *Beggars' Opera* we shall say little, except that setting aside the singing, which he leaves out, Mr. TERRY is the very best *Peachum* we ever saw. Of the *Macheath* of Madame VESTRIS it is unnecessary to say anything, it is so well known; it was as harmonious and spirited as ever. The young Lady who made her first appearance as *Polly*, possesses considerable natural requisites in respect both to person and voice, but we apprehend that considerable practice is necessary to render her adequate to *Polly*, in a metropolis which boasts of Miss STEPHENS. Still, there was quite enough displayed to evince the necessary capability, if not the positive acquirement; and as the Haymarket Theatre has never aimed, and indeed ought not to aim at the highest operatical performances, Miss GRENVILLE is likely to prove an immediate acquisition to its boards. By the way, Mrs. JONES, although a little too plump, is a very excellent *Lucy*. We by no means approve of the new reading of *Filch*. He ought to be a much more civilized personage—an Old Bailey squire of dames—the page of pickpockets; instead of which, he is made to assume the outward manner of a drover; and instead of needing the recommendation of *Mrs. Peachum* to visit Hockley-in-the-Hole, to acquire manliness, seems as if he had never been anywhere else. This should be amended: the character is too *high* to be trifled with.

COVENT-GARDEN.

On Thursday evening the tragedy of *Cymbeline* was revived for the benefit of Miss TREE, who of course assumed the tender and romantic character of *Imogen*. This part is so altogether of that *caste* from which Miss TREE receives distinction, and to which it may with equal truth be said, that she gives it, we scarcely need say that she was entirely at home in it. The peculiar charm of this actress, is what is emphatically termed *feeling*, and she displays it at once in air, deportment, and voice. We know not whether that which in respect to recitation is usually a defect, meaning a want of force and of distinctness, may not rather aid the peculiar charm of Miss TREE. That calm and gentle marking, which is so peculiarly her own, and which, if called into momentary vehemence, rises and falls with such feminine grace, would be altogether marred by the shrill and piercing utterance which can more completely fill the house. Cut down as *Cymbeline* now is, there is but one scene in which *Imogen* has to express much transition of emotion, and that is in the first interview with *Iachimo*, which Miss TREE performed as delightfully as the similar single passage in the *Two Gentlemen of Verona*, where a doubt is thrown upon the truth of her lover, starting into reproof of the wily Italian with the like beautiful energy. The pastoral scenes, in which she assumes boyhood, precisely as a modest but love-deserted damsel should do, are also exceedingly curtailed; but her simple entrance into the cave, and timid and irresistible appeal to the kindness of those who find her there, were indescribably excellent—indescribable, because so little is to be either said or done; and yet that little is made so effective. Miss TREE is so peculiarly adapted for the romantic drama of the olden time, which abounds in characters of that description which she represents so admirably, we think she would support the revival of several more of them. What an *Aspasia* she would make in the *Maids' Tragedy*, could that fine play be judiciously adapted; what an excellent *Arethusa* in *Philaster*; and many similar characters might be mentioned on a little recollection. We wish the Proprietors of Govent-Garden would think of it.

YOUNG performed *Iachimo*, and MACREADY *Leonatus*, so that the piece was strongly supported. The burst of grief of *Leonatus*, when he discovers the innocence of *Imogen*, was delivered with an energy and feeling the most powerful and genuine. The play, indeed, was very well got up throughout; only we cannot understand such a variety of costume. Here was YOUNG in the Roman Toga, and *Leonatus* and *Clotus* in the garb of the gay cavaliers of the sixteenth century. We are aware that the play is all anachronism and anomaly; but such being the case, there is the less occasion to make it the more so.

A concert followed, if not of the most brilliant, still of a very pleasing description, in which Miss TREE sang "Bid me discourse" delightfully, and Miss HALLANDE exhibited her very extraordinary voice to great advantage in "My heart with love is beating." The audience were very unreasonable, for they made Miss STEPHENS sing "We're a' noddin" twice, and repeat the duet of "Giovanette," with ANGRISANI, three times. The musical afterpiece of *Brother and Sister*, concluded the long bill of fare for the evening, in which Miss TREE performed *Rosantha*, but could not, with all her discrimination, look anything but a gentlewoman. To conclude, this favourite actress enjoyed that most significant proof of public approbation, a very crowded house, which to be parliamentary in phraseology, did not adjourn till one o'clock in the morning.

Q.

ENGLISH OPERA-HOUSE.

MATHEWS NO LONGER "AT HOME."

Mr. MATHEWS closed his labours yesterday evening with the following feeling address. Though his absence will unquestionably diminish greatly "the harmless stock of public amusement" in England, it will not, as was said of GARRICK'S death, "eclipse the gaiety of nations," for he is going to enliven a powerful country by the exercise of his extraordinary talents. That he may return from his adventure across the Atlantic with health and wealth, must be the wish of many thousands of his admiring countrymen, whom he has so often and so highly gratified.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,—My task for the evening being finished, it now only remains for me to bid you farewell. This is the last time, for many months to come, that I shall have the honor and pleasure of appearing before you. I would fain make you merry at parting, but I feel it impossible to leave such kind

friends, even for a time, without a sensation *here*, that prohibits an attempt at a mirthful leave-taking. That I may not, therefore, throw the same cloud over you which at this moment overshadows *me*, I will merely entreat that you will not forget me in my absence, and believe, that though the Atlantic must part us, it is utterly impossible that I can ever forget how deeply I am indebted to your flattering and unwearied patronage. I trust to be enabled to bring back a new Budget for your amusement; and all my powers of observation shall be rouzed to their utmost to collect such materials in my travels, as shall prove that I have not absented myself from your smiles in vain.

FINE ARTS.

ROYAL ACADEMY EXHIBITION.

A JUST apprehension of the express surface of things is a valuable quality in the Painter of grand subjects. It is this, as relating to the look of flesh, for instance, which adds much to the deep interest excited by the works of our great Historical Painter, HAYDON. It is no small part of the merit of the Venetian Painters. But it is even more necessary to the Painter of Common Life, for the representation of external things, and the visible acts of the mind, require aid from the more executive constituents of Art, in proportion as the subjects represented fall below the importance of Epic and Historical Art. It is curious to observe the different talents of Painters as to this quality. In the present Exhibition of the Old Masters at the British Institution Gallery, there are works deficient in some of these executive requisites, while the same works shine in other requisites as difficult, and often more difficult, to display. Thus,—21, *Belshazzar's Feast*, by REMBRANDT, is poorly drawn, and the characters indifferently conceived, but its light and colour are a part of that stream of graphic glory, which has and will flow for ages along the tract of time. So in the Royal Academy Exhibition, Mr. RIPPINGILLE's Picture of *A Recruiting Party* is far from deficient in drawing, but then he wants taste in the brilliant qualities of REMBRANDT, just mentioned. On the other hand, in the painting of character, in which that great Painter often failed, our English Artist is extraordinarily gifted. The broad view he takes of his subject, including direct and remote circumstances, the fine selection he makes of the various actions, positions, and countenances, that lay open the minds of the actors in the depicted scene, are indeed the best portions of the talent that belongs to a first-rate Painter of the Comedy of Modern Life; but their due effect is diminished by his false medium of colour and of feeble light through which they are viewed, and by the insipid manner in which the colour is laid on, for he is still more wanting in that beautiful executive of the Art, the pencilling. The work is as untouchy and marbly as VANDERWERF's, as seen in his Picture of *Christ and the Woman at the Well*, now in the British Institution Gallery, but without any of the bright tone in that pleasing picture. Mr. RIPPINGILLE will no doubt examine studiously whatever he may have opportunity of seeing of such works as TENIERS, CUYP, &c. for daylight, and TENIERS, OSTADE, &c. for touch and colour. They have charming examples of these beauties in Nos. 20, 107, 48, 38, 43, 70, 38, &c. as have many others of the great Masters now in the Gallery, among which is a most wonderful *Room-light* by DE HOOGE, 116. In a few words, it is in the linear part of his Art that Mr. RIPPINGILLE is eminent,—so eminent, that by its agency he raises in the spectator the very ideas that the sight of the actual objects would, deducting the above exceptions. He is surpassed by no one, and has seldom been equalled, in the grand principle of contrasted situation and emotion. Of this a capital example is seen in the thoughtless joviality of the young Recruits, and the bent down, begging old Veteran; in the assumed happy gaiety, and seductive pride of dress, of the Recruiting Serjeant; and the hurt mind of the well-wisher to the simple, fancy-tickled young Countryman. Beautiful contrasts to the gaily expressed incidents, are also, a Mother sorrowing at the approaching departure and lot of her Son, and his Father admonishing him, while the riband-decked Youth looks half uneasy and half pleased at his enlistment; and a young Woman disconsolate at the thought of her lover being allured away by the Serjeant. The sentiment of the subject is indeed as widely and significantly conceived as we think it is capable from one mind, and places the Painter as high for Invention as WILKIE, or any of the Dutch Artists; and for his fine exhibition of character, we would much rather possess it, than some justly prized pictures by some of those great Artists. Its ore of genius is not so free from dross, and does not look so bright as theirs, but it has more sterling worth.

Our Painters of grave and comic scenes in the daily occurrences of life, are many and capital; HEAPHY, HOLMES, RICHTER, NEWTON, KIDD, LESLIE, RIPPINGILLE, WILKIE, MULREADY. Mr. MULREADY's Picture,—135, *The Convalescent*, with much of the manual beauties of the famous Hollanders, has that exposition of mind in the various explanatory features of a given subject, that is the very best part of the spirit of their pictures, and in which indeed our Painters excel them. It represents a Recovering Invalid inhaling the sunny air as he sits with his wife upon a felled tree, and looking at his two boys, who are wrestling. The Artist's tact for expressing the kindly feelings is here seen to be as good as it long has been for shewing the harsher ones; and the well-tinted flesh, the transparency, and the penciling, are worthy of his observance and display of mind and body in the daughter's grasp of her father's knee as she sits on the ground; the vain endeavour of the youngest boy to throw his robuster brother, by an exertion as strenuous as Antæus's in contending with Hercules; the wife's feeling look at her husband and hold of his hand; and the smile on his pale face at his boys, like faint sun-shine on dreary snow.

R. H.

NEWSPAPER CHAT.

A country paper mentions, that a person was lately killed by lightning, attracted, as it is supposed, by *the money in his pockets*. This we conceive to be the most conclusive argument that has yet been adduced to prove the superiority of *paper*.

LONGEVITY OF A HORSE.—There is now living and in the possession of the proprietors of the Mersey and Irwell navigation, where he has been the most part of his life, a horse 63 years old this grass: he is perfectly sound, and free from blemish, and has been in regular work till within a few years. He is now kept at his ease for his past services.—*Liverpool Advertiser*.

The subscriptions to Mr. Owen's *Experiment* of Mutual Association and Co-operation at Motherwell, near Lanark, amounts already to more than 50,000*l*.

The Dandies complain much of the hot weather; they say it prevents the *whiskers* sticking to their cheeks. They complain also that it makes their stays uncomfortable.

FIDELITY OF THE DOG.—The regulations of the Fleet prison prohibit the admission of dogs into the interior: two of them, therefore, following their masters to this abode, were stopped at the door, near to which they have ever since retained their stations. More than once during the period of their imprisonment the owners have been severally removed by *Habeas* to the King's Bench, and each time they were regularly attended by their faithful friends, which, during their sojourn there, remained as near to them as possible. One of them, in particular, is never absent many minutes together from the gates of the Fleet, nor has it been for nearly three years—the duration of its unfortunate master's incarceration.

GREAT AND LITTLE MEN.—It is a singular thing, that so many *great* men have been *little* men. Some of the most active spirits in the world, and some of the largest intellects, have been 'crammed, cabined, and confined,' within a very incompetent corporeal habitation. The most illustrious age of little men was that of Charles I. when nearly all the celebrated men appear to have been mere pigmies in stature. Lord Falkland was a little man, so was Archbishop Laud, and the famous Chillingworth, and the Lord Treasurer Southampton, and some others, whom I at present forget. The *fashion* seems the have taken its rise in the preceding reign, for Bacon tells James I. that tall men are like houses of four or five stories, wherein commonly the uppermost room is worst furnished. Little men are often acute and active-minded, but I still question whether we find them possessed of very capacious minds. Can any one fancy the gigantic intellect of Samuel Johnson, penned up in a 'tenement of clay,' only five feet two inches high? Beauty, says Aristotle, consists in magnitude; little men may be called pretty, and neatly shaped, but not beautiful. So it is, in my opinion, with the mind.—*The Museum*.

MILITARY BON MOT.—The cautious conduct of a Commander of the Allied Army at the battle of Fontenoy, called forth the ridicule of his friends, and procured him the jocular appellation of *the Confectioner*: for being asked why he did not move forward

to the front with more rapidity, he replied, "I am *preserving* my men."

JEWISH MARRIAGE.—I was conducted to the Ghatta (at Venice) where the Jews dwell together as in a tribe or ward; where I was present at a Marriage. The Bride was clad in white, sitting in a lofty chair, and covered with a white veil: then two old Rabbis joined them together; one of them holding a glass of wine in his hand, which, in the midst of the ceremony, pretending to deliver to the woman, he let fall; the breaking whereof was to signify the frailty of our nature, and that we must expect disasters and crosses amidst all enjoyments. This done, we had a fine banquet, and were brought into the bride-chamber, where the Bride was dressed up with flowers, and the counterpane strewed in works. At this ceremony we had divers very beautiful Portuguese Jewesses, with whom we had some conversation.—*Evelyn's Memoirs.*

INDIAN TUMBLERS.—At a ceremony of the hill people performed at Srinagur, one end of a thick rope was fastened to a stake near the bed of the river; the other was carried to the top of a mountain nearly a mile in ascent, where being past round a large tree, it was hauled as tight as it could be stretched. On this rope a man of the caste of *Nats*, or tumblers, was placed astride, with bags of sand fastened to his legs and thighs, to assist in preserving his balance; and in this posture, being gently pushed from the summit, he arrived in safety at the bottom!

CHINESE MANNERS.—In passing through the streets (says Mr. Ellis, in his account of the Embassy to China) it was impossible not to be struck with the silence and regularity of the crowds of spectators; although every countenance expressed curiosity, scarcely an observation was made; there was no pointing with fingers. A ready disposition to laugh, even though they themselves or their manners be the subject of the joke, is the best quality I have observed among the Chinese, and I find it difficult to separate this habitual cheerfulness from those other moral qualities with which it is actually connected. I confess that hitherto I have found the lower orders universally well-behaved and good-humoured.

TURKISH LOGIC.—A young man, desperately in love with a girl of Stanchio, eagerly sought to marry her, but his proposals were rejected. In consequence, he destroyed himself by poison. The Turkish Police arrested the father of the obdurate fair, and tried him for culpable homicide! If the accused (argued they with becoming gravity) had not had a daughter, the deceased would not have fallen in love—consequently he would not have been disappointed—consequently he would not have swallowed poison—consequently he would not have died: but he (the accused) had a daughter, and the deceased had fallen in love, &c. Upon all these counts he was called upon to pay the price of the young man's life; and this being fixed at the sum of 80 piastres, was accordingly exacted.—*Clarke's Travels.*

THE BOOSHUANAS.—The Royal Family were at dinner, in the corner of their yard, outside the house. The King's distinction seemed to consist in his sitting next the pot that contained the boiled beans on which they were dining, and having the only spoon we saw, with which he helped himself and his friends, by putting a portion into each hand as it was held out to him. One of the Princesses was employed in cutting with an axe a dried paunch into small pieces, and putting them into a pot to be boiled, either to complete that repast or to serve for another soon after. Certainly an Englishman would be dying for want of food, before he accepted an invitation to dine with the King of Lattakoo.—*Campbell's Missionary Travels in South Africa.*

SIR WM. CURTIS.—The worthy Baronet, they report, is so indignant at his late treatment by the Common Council, that he has it in contemplation to withdraw from the City the light of his countenance. They say he means to retire to the Gallapagos islands, being peculiarly struck with the account the American Capt. Porter gives of the enormous but delicious land tortoises (some of them reaching 400 pounds weight) which abound there. "Their motion (says Capt. Porter) resembles strongly that of the elephant; their steps slow, regular, and heavy; they carry their body about a foot from the ground, and their legs and feet bear no slight resemblance to the animal to which I have likened them: their neck is from 18 inches to 2 feet in length, and very slender; their head is proportioned to it, and strongly resembles that of a serpent: but hideous and disgusting as is their appearance, no animal can possibly afford a more wholesome, luscious, and delicate food than they do: the finest green turtle is no more to be compared to them in point of excellence, than the coarsest beef is to the finest veal; and after once tasting the Gallapagos tortoises, every other animal food fell greatly in our estimation. The meat is the easiest of digestion; and a quantity of it, exceeding that of any other food, can be eaten without experiencing the slightest inconvenience."—Now who would not be glad to change such treats as the Common Council are in the habit of giving Sir Wm. Curtis, for these Gallapagos delights? This account of Capt. Porter makes one almost wish with the epicure Quin, that our throats were a mile long, with palate all the way: that is, if we could take up our abode in the Gallapagos islands.

COURT OF ALDERMEN.—Would not what Mr. Grattan said of the Dublin Corporation very well apply to some other Courts of Aldermen?—"They are not (he observed) the Citizens—they are not even a considerable part of them, and they never spoke their spirit nor their sentiments. All Ministers, all Men in Power, all Clerks, and the whole mob and rabble of the Court, have been so sweltered with their charms, that it now requires a more than popular appetite to encounter their embraces, but very little share of philosophy to endure their displeasure. They ever wait on the wink of power to praise or prosecute, and to blemish a reputation by unjust calumny or unmeaning panegyric."

CONGREVE.—Voltaire says, "Mr. Congreve had one defect, which was, his entertaining too mean an idea of his first profession, that of a writer, though it was to this he owed his fame and fortune. He spoke of his works as of trifles that were beneath him; and hinted to me on our first conversation, that I should visit him on no other footing than that of a gentleman. I answered, that had he been so unfortunate as to be a mere gentleman, I should never have come to see him; and I was very much disgusted at so unseasonable a piece of vanity."

CORELLI.—This celebrated Italian musician was playing some composition of his own, to a select company, in the private apartment of the Cardinal his patron at Rome, when he observed that his Eminence was engaging in a detached conversation. Upon this he suddenly stopped short, and gently laid down his instrument. The Cardinal, surprized at the unexpected cessation, asked him if a string was broken? To which Corelli, in an honest consciousness of what was due to his art, replied, "No, Sir; I was only afraid I interrupted business." His Eminence, who was one of those who knew that a genius could never show itself to advantage where it had not its proper regards, took this reproof in good part, and broke off his conversation to hear the whole concerto played over again.

JEWS.—Talk what you will of the Jews, that they are cursed, they thrive wherever they come: they are able to oblige the Prince of their country by lending him money; none of them beg; they keep together; and for their being hated, my life for yours, Christians hate one another as much.—*Selden.*

LEARNING.—No man is the wiser for his learning: it may administer matter to work in or objects to work upon; but wit and wisdom are born with a man.—*Selden.*

PARSNIP WINE.—Wine made from parsnips approaches nearer to the Malmsey of Madeira and the Canaries than any other wine. It is made with little expense or trouble, and only requires to be kept a few years to make it as agreeable to the palate as it is wholesome to the body.—*Phillips's History of Vegetables.*

STOW THE ANTIQUARIAN.—It is somewhat curious, that Stow and Speed,—one a celebrated antiquarian and the other an historian,—should both have been tailors. To the disgrace of his contemporaries, Stow was suffered at the decline of his life to be severely pinched by want. He died in 1605, aged 80, and was buried in the church of St. Andrew Undershaft. Mr. Howes, who knew him well, says of him "He was tall of stature, lean of body and face; his eyes small and crystalline; of a pleasant and cheerful countenance; his sight and memory very good; and he retained the true use of all his senses to the day of his death. He was very sober; mild; and courteous to any one that required his instructions. He always protested never to have written anything either for envy, fear, or favour, nor to seek his own private gain or vain-glory; and that his only care was to write truth."

AN EASTERN POET-LAUREATE.

And now they were diverted by their suite,—
  Dwarfs, dancing girls, black eunuchs, and a POET,—
Which made their new establishment complete;
  The last was of great fame,—and liked to shew it:
His verses rarely wanted their due feet;
  And for his theme,—he seldom sung below it,
He being paid to satirise or flatter,
As the Psalm says, "inditing a good matter."

He praised the present and abused the past,
  Reversing the good custom of old days;
An Eastern Anti-Jacobin at last
  He turn'd, preferring pudding to no praise;
For some few years his lot had been o'ercast
  By his seeming independent in his lays;
But now he sung the Saltan and the Pasha
With truth like SOUTHEY and with verse like CRASHAW.

He was a man who had seen many changes,
And always changed as true as any needle;
His polar-star being one which rather ranges,
And not the fixed;—he knew the way to wheedle:
So vile, he 'scaped the doom which oft avenges;
And being fluent—(save indeed when fee'd ill)—
He lied with such a fervor of intention,
There was no doubt he earn'd his Laureate pension!

BYRON.

LAW.

COURT OF CHANCERY,

Thursday, June 20.

MURRAY *v.* ELLISTON.

In consequence of having received the certificate of the Court of King's Bench, stating the opinion of the Court that the defendant had not infringed the plaintiff's copyright by the performance of Lord Byron's tragedy of *Marino Faliero* at Drury-lane Theatre, the Court dissolved the injunction, and ordered Mr. Murray to pay the costs.

COURT OF KING'S BENCH,

Tuesday, June 18.

THE CARLILES.

Mr. EVANS moved for a rule calling on the keeper of Dorchester Jail to show cause why Jane Carlile and Mary Ann Carlile, prisoners in his custody, should not have the same privileges as are enjoyed by the felons in the same prison. He made this application on an affidavit, which stated that they were closely confined for 22 hours out of the 24, during which short interval only they were suffered to take air and exercise—a severity not contemplated by the sentence of the Court, under which their health was materially suffering, and for which no reason whatever had been given.

The LORD CHIEF JUSTICE expressed a doubt whether the Court had power to interfere in the manner requested. If the jailer was guilty of any excess, he was liable to be indicted.

Mr. EVANS observed, that it was sworn that these females were treated in a different manner from the other prisoners.

Mr. Justice HOLROYD replied, that this might possibly be very proper, if any particular line of conduct was adopted on the part of prisoners. He did not think the Court could interfere.

The LORD CHIEF JUSTICE asked Mr. Evans if he was aware of any authority to show that the Court might interfere to regulate or alter the treatment of prisoners?

Mr. EVANS replied in the negative; on which the LORD CHIEF JUSTICE suggested that he had better look into the authorities and mention the case again.

COURT OF COMMON PLEAS,

Saturday, June 15.

CURLING *v.* HAYDOCK.

Mr. Serjeant PELL moved the Court for a new trial in this case, on account of excessive damages. The Jury, as our readers will remember, gave 700*l.* to the plaintiff, his son having been dragged from his horse and severely horsewhipped in Hyde-park.—The Court refused the application, declaring they saw no ground for disturbing the verdict, which they considered perfectly consistent with justice, with the nature of the injury received, and the character and rank of the parties concerned. It might be true, that the defendant believed the plaintiff intended to insult him; but even if such an intention had existed, of which there was no proof, still the outrageous and violent attack of the defendant was not to be palliated, as it was his duty, as a man of honour and a gentleman, in the first instance to have demanded explanation, before he proceeded to the cruel and unmanly severity which he seemed to have exercised.

PREROGATIVE COURT.

Wednesday, June 19.

THE PROPERTY OF HIS LATE MAJESTY.

The question of Jurisdiction, in the case of the *soi disant* Princess Olive, this day underwent a solemn argument of five hours. The Court was crowded to excess, and was attended by the Lady, who came into Court richly dressed, just as the King's Advocate commenced his protest.

The KING'S ADVOCATE said, mis-statements had gone forth respecting an important communication being made to him on the last Court day. The intimations referred to were of a very different nature. It was not that his Majesty's Government had made any such, and it was altogether a mistake to suppose that he (Sir C. Robinson) had expressed any wish to compromise the matter, or that he had conceded any thing.

Dr. DODSON proceeded to detail precedents with respect to the power of the King of England to make Wills, and Dr. HAGGARD followed on the same side.

Sir C. ROBINSON (the King's Advocate) contended that the Court, upon no pretence whatever, could call upon the King to account for the property of his predecessor, to which he was entitled as his heir, or by any possibility entertain this question. It was of his, the Learned Advocate's suggestion, and without any definite instructions, that he appeared under protest, denying the jurisdiction. There was no *prima facie* evidence in support of the paper before the Court. The paper, if it was a real document, had been kept back for forty years in the hands of the party, and until no living evidence could be brought forward as having witnessed or attested it. It was to be supported upon the evidence of mere comparison of hand-writing, which was in itself inadmissible. The Court had no assistance of affidavits, but from persons who were least to be regarded. Another circumstance was, whether a correct designation was given of the person claiming to be so descended. Her pretensions, so far from being well founded, were expressly at variance with the impression on the public mind, which was against her; and the question was one in which every individual had an interest. She had assumed a title to which she had no right, and it was not for the purpose of cavil about the use of the title against which he contended; but it should have been made the subject of a specific plea, that such was her designation. If she was entitled to this formal description as being the Princess of Cumberland, it was impossible a question, which involved her ultimate right of succession to the Crown, could be tried here. There was something so marvellous in the whole history of this person, that it was considered altogether incredible. If the Court, therefore, was not entitled to investigate it, that was a sufficient reason to stop the Court in regard to its deciding on this paper. If the Court were to act in issuing this decree, that would be to cite the reigning Monarch to give an account of all the property of his late Majesty; and to lay open all the secrets of his present Majesty, and all his family history. The right of the Sovereign to make Wills was beside the question. Mr. Justice Blackstone had laid it down, "That no suit could be maintained against the King: for in such the Courts of law can have no jurisdiction." In the case of a suit brought against the reigning Sovereign, he was not bound to answer it, and the Court could not enact any penalty for non-appearance, because the King could commit no *laches*, and no penalty could attach for contempt in his refusing to appear. Suppose this Court were to give effect to this instrument, by what power could it be carried into execution? the King could not be sued upon the decree of this Court, and therefore no fruits could be directed from this Court's granting probate.

Dr. ADAMS followed, and contended that this party had no other remedy but as a matter of grace and favour from the Crown, or by Petition to the Court of Chancery.

Dr. Lushington having risen to reply,

The KING'S ADVOCATE opposed his right of reply, on the ground, that as no new matter had been introduced, the right of reply might therefore prejudicially affect the interests of the Crown.

Dr. LUSHINGTON was heard in answer to the objection taken, and

Sir J. NICHOL having over-ruled the objection,

Dr. LUSHINGTON proceeded. This paper, according to his Learned Friend, if admitted to probate, could never be carried into effect; because, in contending with the Crown, it was placed under this disadvantage—it could not be granted. Now such was the melancholy fact, that whoever was opposed to the Crown would always be opposed to the greatest difficulty, if not utterly borne down. But where privileges, as in this case, were contended for, equally valuable with those of the Crown itself, it was hard that these should be subjected to all the subterfuges of the law; and if the Crown acted with a view to principles of justice, he should think it would consent to the trial of this cause.

Sir J. NICHOL said he should take time to consider the case, and give judgment on the next Court day.

POLICE.

BOW-STREET.

A tall, and seemingly half-starved young woman, who said her name was *Ellen Maxwell*, was charged with most inhuman treatment of her child, a pretty little girl about two years old.—On Tuesday afternoon she was seen beating it cruelly on the head. Some passengers remonstrated, and she moved over to Charing-cross, where taking the child by the legs, she dashed its face upon the pavement, and its chin was dreadfully cut. One of the witnesses snatched the child from her, but gave it to her again upon her promising not to ill-treat it. She then moved to Spring-gardens, where in a few moments she again beat it, and was

about to dash its head against the railings, when a gentleman seized her, and having taken the child, she was given in charge to a constable. She was heard to talk rather incoherently when she was beating the child, and said, among other things, "I had two children, and I loved them; but I have lost my boy, and I will not have one alone, I will put the little wretch out of the way—I will kill it." When asked how she could treat the child so cruelly, she said, she regarded it "as the curse of God, and she meant to kill it. She was apparently intoxicated, and looked extremely wild.—The child was taken to St. Martin's workhouse. The Prisoner said she had not had food the whole day, and a woman gave her some porter, which, operating upon an empty stomach, almost deprived her of her senses.—While she spoke there was something in her manner which created a doubt of her sanity. Mr. Minshull asked her if her mind was troubled? and she replied "O yes, yes; very, very much, indeed. I have been wandering about in beggary; I have lost my boy, and my husband has been in prison, and—my head—my head is bad, very bad indeed."—Mr. MINSHULL.—Are you fond of your child?—Prisoner.—Yes, indeed I am, Sir, and if I had been in my senses I should never have touched her.—Mr. MINSHULL.—How long is it since you lost your other child?—The Prisoner (her lips quivering) replied, about 8 days.—Mr. MINSHULL.—You have been saved from a very dreadful situation. But for these people you would have stood at that bar for the murder of your child.—Prisoner.—Oh, horrible! I never will hurt her again.—In answer to further questions, she said she was a native of Edinburgh, and had been in London about 16 months, living in the most extreme wretchedness. Her husband was imprisoned for sending begging letters to different gentlemen. She subsisted entirely upon charity.—While she was talking, her husband, who had just been released from Coldbath-fields prison, came in; he stated himself to have been clerk to a writer at Edinburgh. When asked what he had been imprisoned for, he hung down his head, but said nothing.—Mr. MINSHULL said, he did not think it safe to trust the child with its mother, unless she was watched; and he therefore directed that they should be taken to the workhouse, and not left alone. The husband was directed meanwhile to come again to the office, when some inquiry should have been made as to the truth of their statements.—The unfortunate woman, when she heard the order for her being watched, said, with a melancholy kind of smile, "I shall not hurt my child, Sir."—The child seemed extremely fond of its mother, and screamed violently when an officer once attempted to separate them.

ACCIDENTS, OFFENCES, &c.

Monday morning, as Mr. Knight, a respectable tradesman, residing in St. John's-square, Clerkenwell, accompanied by his wife, several of his children, and some friends, were going over the upper part of the Wellington brewery, in the City-road, to view the apparatus, Mrs. Knight, not perceiving an aperture in the floor, fell through into the landing below. Her legs, thigh, and collar-bone were broken, and she was conveyed home without hopes of recovery.

About dusk on Wednesday night, Mr. James Larkins, of Gun-street, St. George's-fields, was attacked by three ruffians in the Borough-road, at the back of Dover-street, by whom he was robbed and shockingly maltreated. They first knocked him down with a bludgeon, and finding him disposed to make resistance, beat him about the legs with the same weapon till he was unable to move; they then rifled his pockets of about 5s. in silver, and also made off with his hat.

Between two and three o'clock on Thursday morning, a fire broke out in the lower part of the house of Mr. Hand, tinsel manufacturer, Kirby-street, Hatton-garden. It burnt with such rapidity that the family had hardly sufficient time to effect their escape in nearly a state of nudity; three children who slept in the attic were rescued with the greatest hazard. The house, with all the furniture, stock in trade, &c. was destroyed.

Thursday night a fire broke out in St. John-street, Clerkenwell, on the premises of Mr. Henus, an extensive furrier and leather-dyer, which consumed his, and injured the premises of two tradesmen adjoining. The inhabitants were retiring to rest at the hour (eleven o'clock) when the flames were first discovered issuing, in a tremendous volume, from the roof of Mr. Henus's premises. The engines soon arrived, and by three o'clock on Friday morning the fire was extinguished. The property destroyed is valued at some thousands of pounds.

Thursday evening, Mr. Speedy, of the Boot public-house, behind the Foundling Hospital, was robbed of 150 sovereigns, and two watches. The property was safe in his drawers in the bed room about eight o'clock, but on retiring to rest, he found his drawers forced open, and his money and watches gone.

THE EXHIBITION of the SOCIETY of PAINTERS in WATER COLOURS, WILL CLOSE at the Egyptian Hall, Piccadilly, next SATURDAY.—Admittance 1s.—Catalogue 6d.

COPLEY FIELDING, Secretary.

EGYPTIAN TOMB, at the Egyptian Hall, Piccadilly.—In consequence of some new Arrangements having taken place, the Public are respectfully informed, that the Exhibition of the Egyptian Tomb will continue OPEN until the end of the present Month, previous to its final removal to the Continent.—Open from 10 till 5.—Admittance 1s.

CURIOUS AND CAPITAL BOOKS, PRINTS, PICTURES, AUTOGRAPHS, &c.

TO BE SOLD BY AUCTION, by Mr. HONE, at his Rooms, 45, Ludgate-hill, TO-MORROW, and 5 following days, at half-past 12 to a minute,—VALUABLE ENGLISH and FOREIGN BOOKS; early Typography; fine Books of Prints; illustrated Works; rare Articles on Occult Science; Heraldry; Numismatics, &c. Curious MSS. the best Modern Authors; Sets of Edinburgh and Quarterly Reviews; Gentleman's, Monthly, and New Monthly Magazines; Family Bibles; Atlases; Encyclopædias; Autographs; Engravings by Old Masters; Prints, framed and glazed; Paintings; an ancient Cross-bow, &c.—May be viewed and Catalogues had.

THE NAUTICAL REGISTER.

A NEW WEEKLY PAPER, devoted principally to Maritime and Commercial Subjects, and combining the Varieties of a Newspaper.—On Wednesday next, the 26th of June, will appear the First Number of the Nautical Register, in folio, price 7d.

Published by J. Appleyard, at the Nautical Register-office, 19, Catharine-street, Strand, by whom Advertisements and Communications to the Editor (post paid) will be thankfully received.—Orders taken by all Newsmen, and by Newton and Co. Warwick-square.—Sold by Mr. J. M. Richardson, Bookseller, 23, Cornhill; Mr. Warren, Bookseller, 19, Old Bond-street; and Mr. Cox, Bookseller, Berners-street, Oxford-street.

TO TRAVELLERS, &c.

County Maps, price 1s. or in Cases for the Pocket, 2s. each.

A COMPLETE COUNTY ATLAS of ENGLAND & WALES, containing 53 Maps, alphabetically arranged and embellished, with a beautiful Vignette to each Map; exhibiting all the Mail Coach, Turnpike, and principal Cross Roads, with the Cities, Towns, Villages, Parks, Rivers, and Navigable Canals, peculiar to each County.—Half-bd. morocco, lettered, price 2l. 2s.—Likewise may be had, any of the above Counties, with an engraved Head for Map Files, for Merchants', Bankers', and Tradesmen's Offices, 1s. each.—A liberal allowance to Schools.

Published by Phelps, 27, Paternoster-row.

This day is published, in 8vo. 14s.

A SECOND VOLUME of TABLE TALK. By WILLIAM HAZLITT.—Among other Essays contained in this new Volume, will be found—On Corporate Bodies—On the Aristocracy of Letters—On Coffee-house Politicians—On the Knowledge of Character—On the Disadvantages of Intellectual Superiority—On Criticism—Whether Actors ought to sit in the Boxes—On Effeminacy of Character—On Familiar Style—On the Picturesque and Ideal—On the Fear of Death, &c. &c.

Printed for Henry Colburn and Co. Conduit-street.

To-morrow will be published, in 8vo. price 14s.

THE PHILOSOPHY of MORALS. By Sir CHARLES MORGAN, M. D. Fellow of the Royal College of Physicians of London, and Author of the Philosophy of Life.

Printed for Henry Colburn and Co. Conduit-street.

Just published, in 8vo. demy, price 1s.

THE DEATH-BED CONFESSIONS of the Countess of GUERNSEY to Lady Anne H———; developing a series of Mysterious Transactions connected with the most Illustrious Personages in the Kingdom: to which are added the Q——'s Last Letter to the K——, written a few days before Her M——'s Death, and other Authentic Documents, never before published.

"I am the Viper that has been secretly wounding you both."

Vide the Countess's Narrative.

Published by John Fairburn, Broadway, Ludgate hill.

MARRIAGES.

On Tuesday the 4th inst. at Wincanton, Somerset, Harriet, eldest daughter of Mr. Combe, to Mr. William Harris, of Kensington.

On Monday, at Lambeth-palace, by the Archbishop of Canterbury, the Hon. Robert Smith, M. P. only son of Lord Carrington, to the Hon. Eliza Katherine Forester, second daughter of Lord Forester.

DEATHS.

On Monday, in Manchester-square, the Most Hon. Francis Ingram Seymour Conway, Marquis and Earl of Hertford, K. G. Earl of Yarmouth, Viscount Beauchamp, Baron of Ragley, of Conway, and of Killultagh, and Lord-Lieutenant of Warwickshire and Antrim. He is succeeded by his only son, the Earl of Yarmouth. He was 79 years of age. He had been in a declining state of health for upwards of two years; but within the last ten days the decay had been rapid; latterly his memory appeared to be wholly gone. The present Marquis succeeds to the vast wealth, as well as to the titles of the deceased. The entailed estates are estimated at little short of 90,000l. per annum.

On Friday week, in Duke-street, Westminster, aged 97, Mrs. Margaret Bankes, mother of H. Bankes, Esq. M. P.

On Friday week, in Cavendish-square, the Earl of Orford, in his 70th year.

On the 9th inst. at Islington, Capt. John Cleland, R. N. aged 83.

On the 13th inst. of an ossification of the heart, Mrs. Drax Grosvenor, widow of the late Richard Erle Drax Grosvenor, Esq. of Charborough-park, Dorsetshire.

On the 15th inst. Mr. George Oliver, sen. Blackheath-hill, aged 84.

Printed and published by JOHN HUNT, at the Examiner Office, No. 19, Catharine-street, Strand, London.—Price 7d.